

# THE DIAL

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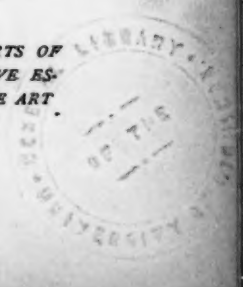
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# THE DIAL

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## HOLMES'S LIFE OF EMERSON.\*

In the "Atlantic Monthly" for February, Dr. Holmes, writing upon "the back of the New Portfolio," gives us an interesting but pathetic glimpse of the feelings which impressed him during the preparation of his memoir of his friend Mr. Emerson, and of his reflections after the task was finished. The undertone which pervades these reflections is one of dissatisfaction—a judgment, however, which the public will not be likely to share. He confesses that he did not know how difficult a task he had undertaken "in venturing upon a memoir of a man whom all, or almost all, agree upon as one of the great lights of the New World, and whom very many regard as an unpredicted Messiah." With all his great love for the man, and with all the enthusiasm which shines through his pages, he admits that "the wide range of thought which belonged to the subject of the memoir," his mystical tendencies, his brilliant imagination and humor, his combination of good sense with occasional extravagance, the modest audacity of his truthful

nature, and "the company of a sybilline intelligence which was discounting the promises of the remote future long before they were due," not only made his work a grave one, but fatiguing to the writer. The conflict of critical opinions made it difficult for him to keep his own faculties clear and his judgment unbiased. With this modest depreciation of his own work, however, he does not fail to rejoice in having shared the intimacy of such a man and to pay noble tribute to the influences which radiated from such a life. What nobler eulogy has been spoken of Emerson, the "transcendental philosopher," than this from the philosopher whose wisdom has never transcended the limits of dogmas based upon love and kindness and illuminated with the sunlight of poetic grace and refined humor: "To share the inmost consciousness of a noble thinker, to scan one's self in the white light of a pure and radiant soul,—this is indeed the highest form of teaching and discipline." Alas! that almost the last words he writes before opening the New Portfolio are expressions of gratitude for what this memoir has taught him and the touching—"but let me write no more." The fire still burns cheerily on the hearth; there is warmth and comfort in the blaze; there are pleasant fancies yet to be found in the glowing embers; but one by one the old friends who sat by the hearth when life was fresh have dropped out of their accustomed places. Why should he, sitting there alone in the afterglow of his years, sadden himself with memories of those who are gone, and weary himself longer with critical judgments upon those who were near and dear to him,—nearer and dearer to him now, in the autumnal haze of life so soon to melt into the eternal sunlight beyond?

It seems to me that no one can fail to be impressed with the faithfulness Dr. Holmes exhibits in his examinations of the addresses, sermons, and essays of Emerson; and this is all the more striking because the larger part of the memoir is devoted to them. In a certain sense, this was inevitable; for Emerson is most clearly seen in his writings. Even the liberal quotations, which fill nearly half of the volume, were necessary by way of illustration. The best judgment of Emerson must be formed by what Emerson has said, not by what he has done. He was pre-eminently a thinker, not an actor. Though the very prime of his life was spent in the midst of great reform movements that were pressing on to consummation, and though he keenly sympathized with them, he dwelt apart from them and only impressed himself upon them by saying what

\* RALPH WALDO EMERSON. By O. W. Holmes. ("American Men of Letters" series.) Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

he felt, not by acting what he felt. He was the Melancthon of social and moral reform; not the Luther. Emerson might have written the theses, but he would never have nailed them to the church door. Even when he severed himself from his denomination, he was not aggressive, not even polemical in his opposition. In his resignation sermon, he says: "Having said this, I have said all. I have no hostility to this institution; I am only stating my want of sympathy with it. Neither should I ever have obtruded this opinion upon other people, had I not been called by my office to administer it. That is the end of my opposition, that I am not interested in it." Over and over again Emerson gives expression to this feeling of inaction, and impresses upon us the real nature of his mission as a teacher—namely, that he must give utterance to the ideas which he finds in himself, because they are forced upon him with all the conviction of whole truths. Supremely happy in his domestic relations, surrounded by a little circle of devoted friends, having a large and loving nature, untroubled by the actual hardships and necessities of life, and unimpeded by any obstacle in following his moral and mental bent, it is but natural that his life should be remarkably free from those dramatic episodes and stirring scenes which generally characterize the lives of reformers. He who would follow its channel must trace it in his writings; and he will give us the best picture of him who allows Emerson to describe Emerson. This, Dr. Holmes has done, with the help of such side-lights as he has been able to throw upon it from his own intimate knowledge of the subject, and the inner sympathy which one poet has for another. And how thoroughly he has done it! how faithfully! Not an essay has been missed. The long series passes under his scrutiny, even with chronological exactness; and each one is analyzed and sketched off with a few happy touches and quotations, that make these chapters not alone a prelude but a key to the appreciative reading of Emerson.

Naturally we turn with the most interest to find what Dr. Holmes may say of Emerson the poet; for there is a growing feeling that this Concord philosopher was after all essentially a poet—and this is a feeling which will grow still stronger with time. In the past, Emerson has been judged almost exclusively by his prose, no one seeming to remember that he had hitched his "wagon to a star." If there were those who recognized that the poetic element was the basis of all Emerson's utterances, whether in prose or verse, they were shy of declaring it, lest "the Sphinx" or "Brahma" might be hurled at them, or they

might be confronted with some of his rough-hewn chunks of verse, incongruous rhymes and hubbly rhythms. But that time has passed. Critics have grown courageous of late. They are beginning to realize that a man may be "a versifying drill-sergeant" and not be a poet, and that "cat's-cradle tricks of rhyming sleight-of-hand" have no essential connection with poetry. "The greatest poet is not he who has done the best, it is he who suggests the most," says Saint-Beuve. Now that Dr. Holmes has pronounced his verdict—and the chapter devoted to the poems is the finest in the book and in his best vein—the world will be inclined to rub its eyes and take a fresh look at "Rhodora," "the Days," and "Terminus," to see if they are not among the noblest poetic utterances of our time. The most striking feature of Holmes's criticism is the standard of comparison which he makes. The literary range in which he places Emerson is that of Shakespere and Milton. But let his own sentences exhibit the estimate in which he holds him as a poet:

"Emerson was not only a poet, but a very remarkable one. Without using the rosetta-stone of Swedenborg, Emerson finds in every phenomenon of nature a hieroglyphic; others measure and describe the monuments,—he reads the sacred inscriptions. How alive he makes Monadnoe! Dinocrates undertook to 'hew Mount Athos to the shape of man' in the likeness of Alexander the Great, without the help of tools or workmen; Emerson makes 'Cheshire's haughty hill' stand before us an impersonation of kingly humanity, and talk with us as a god from Olympus might have talked. This is the fascination of Emerson's poetry; it moves in a world of universal symbolism. The sense of the infinite fills it with its majestic presence. . . . Everywhere his poetry abounds in celestial imagery. If Galileo had been a poet as well as an astronomer, he would hardly have sowed his verse thicker with stars than we find them in the poems of Emerson. . . . His poetry is elemental; it has the rock beneath it in the eternal laws on which it rests; the roll of deep waters in its grander harmonies; its air is full of æolian strains that waken and die away as the breeze wanders over them; and through it shines the white starlight, and from time to time flashes a meteor that startles us with its sudden brilliancy."

Enthusiastic as Dr. Holmes is in his admiration for Emerson, much as he loved the man for the sweetness and grace of his nature and the nobility and purity of his life, it is to his credit as critic that he does not allow his love to bias his judgment. He does not always profess to follow Emerson in his flights. Evidently he does not have much sympathy with transcendentalism, nor with the vagaries of some of its followers. He has his quiet laugh at the Brook Farm Phalanstery—and so did Emerson, for that, although his most intimate friends were corralled within that short-lived Utopia. He does not accept all that appeared in the "Dial" as orthodox, although it was the Emersonian organ and the mouthpiece of transcendentalism.

He does not like some of Emerson's friends—least of all, Carlyle. The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table is as terrestrial as Horace. One feels all through this memoir, gracious and loving as it is, and deep and sincere as was his love for Emerson, that he is not always in sympathy with the sybilline intelligence, and that the atmosphere of symbolism sometimes oppresses him. His genial, vital, sensuous nature, loving the men and women, the birds, the flowers, and the sunshine of this world, does not take kindly to speculative metaphysics or to moral abstractions requiring obscure nomenclature. For this very reason, more than one reader will search through this volume, not alone for what Holmes says of Emerson, but for those brilliant bits of description and flashes of humor which irradiate all of Holmes's writings. He will not look in vain. His tracing of the qualities which were transmitted to Emerson from his ancestors is in his best vein and full of his quiet humor; as when he says:

"The slabs which record the excellences of our New England clergymen of the past generations are so crowded with virtues that the reader can hardly help inquiring whether a sharp bargain was not driven with the stone-cutter, like that which the good Vicar of Wakefield arranged with the portrait painter."

Let us cull out a few of these characteristic humors and illustrations which are sprinkled so thickly through these pages:

"No creed can be held to be a finality. From Edwards to Mayhew, from Mayhew to Channing, from Channing to Emerson, the passage is like that which leads from the highest lock of a canal to the ocean level. It is impossible for human nature to remain permanently shut up in the highest lock of Calvinism."

Thoreau is the "Robinson Crusoe of Walden Pond, who carried out a schoolboy whim to its full proportions and told his story of Nature in undress as only one who had hidden in her bedroom could have told it." Hawthorne "brooded himself into a dream-peopled solitude." Alcott's speculations led him "into the fourth dimension of mental space." Speaking of the manner in which Professor Bowen reviewed Emerson's "Nature," he says it was like "a sagacious pointer making the acquaintance of a box tortoise." Of some of Emerson's followers, he says: "There was occasionally an air of bravado, as if they had taken out a patent for some knowing machine, which was to give them a monopoly of its products." What is more felicitous than his quiet comment on Emerson's wish that Carlyle could edit the "Dial": "A concert of singing mice with a savage and hungry old grimalkin as leader of the orchestra!" What more graceful than his eulogy of this same "Dial": "Its four volumes remain stranded like some rare and curiously patterned shell which a storm of yesterday has left beyond the reach of the receding

waves." Holmes evidently does not care to mix in the quarrel now waging over the memory of Margaret Fuller. He simply speaks of her as "a woman who is likely to live longer by what is written of her than by anything she ever wrote herself," and passes on. It is brief but explicit. Of Emerson's address at the Burns Centennial Festival, he says: "White-hot iron we are familiar with, but white-hot silver is what we do not often look upon; and his inspiring address glowed like silver fresh from the cupel." Emerson's love for pie is well known; and Dr. Holmes, as a physician, puts himself on record thus: "Pie, often foolishly abused, is a good creature, at the right time, and in angles of thirty or forty degrees," and he clinches his judgment with a picture of Emerson, a confirmed pie-eater, who never had the dyspepsia, in contrast with Carlyle feeding on oatmeal, groaning with indigestion all his days, and "living with half his self-consciousness habitually centered beneath his diaphragm." One is tempted to go on picking out these pleasant excerpts; but there must be an end, and let them close with his happy comparison between poetry and prose:

"Poetry is to prose what the so-called full-dress of the ball-room is to the plainer garments of the household and the street. Full-dress, as we call it, is so full of beauty that it cannot hold it all, and the redundancy of nature overflows the narrowed margin of satin and velvet. It reconciles us to its approach to nudity by the richness of its drapery and ornaments. A pearl or diamond necklace or a blushing bouquet excuses the liberal allowance of undisguised nature. We expect from the fine lady in her brocades and laces a generosity of display which we should reprimand with the virtuous severity of Tartuffe if ventured upon by the waiting-maid in her calicoes. So the poet reveals himself under the protection of his imaginative and melodious phrases—the flowers and jewels of his vocabulary."

Evidently it is not time yet for the Autocrat to lament: "*Eheu! fugaces anni.*" The flying years have not dulled the diamond point of his pen. He lives below the frost-line of life.

What may be called the Emerson literature is the best testimony to the growing influence and power of his life and teachings. Mr. George W. Cooke, Mr. Moncure D. Conway, and Mr. Alexander Ireland have written elaborate biographies of him; the latter, in its English dress, a beautiful sample of book-making. Mr. E. P. Whipple, Matthew Arnold, John Morley, Henry Norman, Edmund C. Stedman (one of the best of our American critics, who has just printed in "The Century" such a discriminating review of Holmes), and others, among them the leading members of the Concord School, have devoted careful essays to the study of his life and work; and now Dr. Holmes has added his contribution, written with love for the man and his noble manhood and with reverence for the thoughts and ideas



which he enunciated in his teachings, though most of all rejoicing in his privilege of communion and intimate friendship with "the sinless and self-devoted servant of God and friend of men." Whatever others have written or may write about Emerson, nothing has been or will be said more beautiful than the last words of the old friend, so soon, in the course of nature, to join his companion on that shore where all problems which distract us here are solved:

"Here and there a narrow-eyed sectary may have avoided or spoken ill of him; but if He who knew what was in man had wandered from door to door in New England, as of old in Palestine, we can well believe that one of the thresholds which 'those blessed feet' would have crossed to hallow and receive its welcome, would have been that of the lovely and quiet home of Emerson."

GEORGE P. UPTON.

#### AMERICA BEFORE COLUMBUS.\*

This mechanically handsome and generous volume is a complete and capable monograph of a subject rich in material and growing in interest. The author has shown a wide acquaintance with its literature, and singularly good judgment in the selection of his subject-matter and style of presentation. Having made a study of "the first men and prehistoric times" of the Old World, he seems to have become fascinated with archaeological research, and turned to America to trace the corresponding periods among the relics of another race and under another sky.

The present work appeared in Paris, in 1882, as an octavo of 588 pages, printed and bound in elegant style. The American edition is a graceful and faithful translation, except where the editor has found reason to make changes in the subject-matter. Professor Dall is one of our best anthropological authorities, having spent several years in contact with the natives of our northwest coast and the Aleutian Islands, and having written several important anthropological treatises concerning them. He possesses, moreover, a cast of mind conferring broad and philosophical grasp, so as to become more than a mere compiler of facts. The work, then, may be accepted as a complete modern manual of American antiquities and pre-Columbian populations. In pronouncing it complete, we mean that the author has had no favorite specialty to develop. The different parts of the subject are discussed in due proportion. In calling it modern, we mean that he has consulted all the later American reports and

memoirs. We have for the first time, in a manual, an adequate description of the cliff-dwellings of Arizona, so elaborately studied and illustrated by the Smithsonian Institution and the Bureau of Ethnology; though, in accordance with the plan of the work, we have little account of the modern cliff-dwellers. We have also a digest of the results of mound researches conducted under the auspices of the Peabody Museum, by Professor F. W. Putnam. We have, similarly, an adequate statement of the fruits of M. Charnay's explorations in Central America, and of Ameghino's studies on the antiquity of man in the pampas.

The work begins with a chapter on the contemporaneous existence in America of man and various quadrupeds now extinct—an essay on the geological antiquity of man in America, in which the famous California finds are scarcely admitted as dating from the Pliocene. The kitchen-middens and caves are summarily treated; and then follows a chapter entitled "The Mound Builders"; but instead of grappling with this much-mooted problem, the author confines himself chiefly to the "mounds." The pottery and weapons and ornaments yielded by the excavations in the mounds are quite completely described and illustrated, and furnish a chapter of much interest. The cliff dwellings and their surroundings and contents are delineated pictorially, and described with fullness. By a natural transition the author takes us next to a survey of the astonishing memorials of vanished races who dwelt beyond the Rio Grande. The most striking antiquities of Central America are treated with a copiousness proportioned to their exceptional importance and interest; when the relics of the empire of the Incas are passed carefully under review. A chapter follows on the "Men of America," in which we find a summary of geological relations and craniological facts, but without any general comparison of American racial types with those of the Old World.

The final chapter, on the origin of the Americans, is, in the original work, devoted to a statement and brief discussion of the principal views entertained on this subject—such as an autochthonous origin, or even an American origin, of civilization at large, particularly that of the yellow races; and the various theories of immigration from the Old World, whether from northern Asia, China and Japan, Egypt, Phœnicia, or Northern Europe, or from a lost Atlantis. To find the data for argument, the author very legitimately compares the inscriptions, arms, utensils and costumes of the ancient Egyptians, Assyrians, Etruscans, Iberians, Libyans and Guanches with those of the primitive inhabitants of America; and then takes up the evidence of legends and tra-

\* PREHISTORIC AMERICA. By the Marquis de Nadaillac. Translated by N. D'Anvers. Edited by W. H. Dall. With 299 illustrations. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.



ditions. Here is a wide field for inductive research which is not only legitimate but indispensable for the settlement of the question. But all this the editor has thought fit to replace by a brief chapter for which he holds himself "chiefly responsible." The editor's conclusion, which is not very different from that of the author, represents man as an immigrant to America at an extremely remote period, from the opposite shore of the Pacific. The approach may have been either by the north, at Behring's Strait, or by the south, along the thirtieth parallel south. "Probably it was by both gates." This is the same conclusion which the writer reached in "Preadamites." That successive immigrations may have taken place, he admits; but he denies that any of the supposed affinities between American art and society and the art and society of the Old World—Egyptian, for instance—could be due to direct importation. American civilization he holds to be completely indigenous, and the correspondences noted arise from the parallel evolution of culture, under similar conditions, among different races. The world-wide tradition of a deluge, for instance, he refuses to trace to a central Asiatic origin, and maintains that it is separately indigenous in many countries. In this direction we think the editor inclined to dogmatize, and even to depart from the true inductive method of anthropological investigation. This, however, is precisely the error which he rather airily foists upon all the other theorists not of his way of thinking.

In this work we are not supplied with a treatment distinctively anthropological, we have not a complete discussion of what concerns American man. The work is chiefly archaeological, and in this field it is quite full, fresh, and authentic. We do not imply, however, that the anatomical characteristics and affinities of prehistoric Americans are entirely neglected. Perhaps the scope of the work, as relating to prehistoric America, prevented the author from entering more fully into ethnological questions, for which prehistoric data are so meagre, as it certainly excluded discussions based on data supplied by the aborigines as we know them. Within the limits stated, this work is a safe and adequate text-book. But we are again reminded of our present lack of a text-book consistently and lucidly put together, and properly balanced in its parts, which shall present American anthropology in all its aspects—archaeological, ethnological, geological, anatomical, migrational, and philological. A broad theme, undoubtedly, but one of which the general facts and doctrines should be made more accessible than they are to the student and general reader.

ALEXANDER WINCHELL.

#### ARNOLD'S LIFE OF LINCOLN.\*

Mr. Arnold's Life of President Lincoln is a posthumous work, and was finished just before the illness of the lamented author which resulted in his death on the 20th of May, 1884. Probably no other person was so familiar with the public life of Mr. Lincoln as Mr. Arnold; or, outside of his family, entertained for him a more sincere affection. They were both leading lawyers in the courts of Illinois when their names were rarely mentioned beyond the limits of the State. For more than twenty years they were often engaged as opposing counsel in the trials of important cases. Mr. Lincoln's reputation as a lawyer is now well known. Judge Drummond said of Mr. Arnold that "he was one of the most eminent lawyers of Chicago and of the State." Judge Higgins said: "For more than thirty years Mr. Arnold stood at the head of the Chicago bar. As a *nisi prius* lawyer, there was scarcely his equal in the State." Their esteem and affection for each other were mutual. At the November election, in 1860, when Mr. Lincoln was chosen President, Mr. Arnold was chosen a Representative to Congress; and during the Civil War their relations were most intimate and confidential. Scarcely a day passed when Mr. Arnold did not visit the White House; and to no one else, probably, outside of his Cabinet, did the President express his views and feelings so unreservedly. A long acquaintance, an agreement in political views, especially on the subject of slavery, and a thorough appreciation of each other's honesty and worth, were not more the basis of their mutual regard than the dissimilarity in their social training and mental characteristics—the one possessing qualities which the other lacked. Mr. Lincoln's training had been on a farm, in a store, in the rough and jovial encounters of a Western circuit, and in the social circles of a provincial town. Mr. Arnold, by nature gentle and courteous, and trained in a city, had manners which conformed to the strictest rules of etiquette; and if he had been reared in one of the old families of Boston or Philadelphia, his deportment could not have been more refined and stately. The friendships which are the most fruitful and enduring are between persons who have different gifts, and are unlike in temperament and manners.

Even before the death of Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Arnold formed the resolution of writing the life of his friend, and in 1867 issued his "History of Abraham Lincoln, and the Overthrow of Slavery." The book was hastily written, chiefly while he was an Auditor in the Treas-

\* THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN. By Isaac N. Arnold. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.

ury Department at Washington, and was never regarded by him as a fit portrayal of the life and character of his subject. In later years he entertained the purpose of writing a more complete and elaborate work from materials since collected. The fulfillment of the purpose was deferred, by the intervention of other literary work, until about three years ago, when he took it up with much zeal and happily finished it before his health gave way.

Many lives of Mr. Lincoln have been written—there will be many more, and yet the subject will not have been exhausted; for it includes the services and personal characteristics of the one unique statesman who appeared in the most eventful period of American history. Other men may have surpassed him in individual traits; but, looking back upon the period from 1861 to 1865, and to the men of that period, is it possible to name one who, taking him for all in all, could have filled the place of Abraham Lincoln so wisely, acceptably, and providentially as he did? The homage which a grateful country gives to the name of Washington for his services in the Revolutionary War, the American people and the lovers of liberty in every land give to Lincoln for his services in the War of the Rebellion,—and more, even, inasmuch as the later struggle was a greater historical event than the earlier; and, as a subject of biography, the personal traits of Lincoln make a stronger impression on the minds of the masses, and are more picturesque and varied than those of Washington.

Of the lives of President Lincoln which have thus far appeared, Mr. Arnold's is the fullest and the most satisfactory. No other writer had such an opportunity of personal intercourse with Mr. Lincoln, or could have undertaken the work with a better preparation or a more conscientious and loving spirit. The book must therefore take rank without question as the standard life of Lincoln.

Mr. Arnold's chief solicitude was that he should be accurate in the statement of facts. I had frequent intercourse with him during the progress of the work, and was a witness to the time and patience he gave to the verification of dates and quotations. "It is finished," he said, the last time he called upon me—meaning that his book was finished. There was then a pallor on his countenance and a feebleness in his limbs which suggested a deeper meaning in his words. A fatal disease was upon him; and two or three months later, this true, courteous and accomplished man had finished his earthly work, and was restored to the beloved friend whose life he had portrayed, and who twenty years before had preceded him to the unseen world.

In lieu of a preface which Mr. Arnold

intended to write while the book was in press, the Hon. E. B. Washburne, his friend and colleague in Congress, has written a brief and appropriate introduction, which is supplemented by his extended address on the life and character of Mr. Arnold, delivered Oct. 21, 1884, before the Chicago Historical Society, of which Society Mr. Arnold was President. This address, with others by Judge Drummond and Judge Higgins, made on the same occasion, is printed in a separate pamphlet by the Society. In 1881 Mr. Arnold was invited to read a paper on Mr. Lincoln before the Royal Historical Society in London. He accepted the invitation, and his paper is printed in the transactions of the Society. In April, 1882, he read a paper on "Reminiscences of Lincoln and of Congress during the Rebellion" before the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. It was fortunate that circumstances brought these men into intimate relations; it was fortunate for the purposes of history that Mr. Lincoln had such a biographer.

W. F. POOLE.

#### SHAKESPERE'S PREDECESSORS.\*

It was with high expectations that we looked forward to the perusal of a book upon the pre-Shakesperian drama, by that accomplished literary veteran, the author of the "Renaissance in Italy." It seemed that one who had written so well upon the Greek poets, and who had mastered all that relates to the modern rebirth of the human intelligence, could not fail to impart to the reader something of the rapture of discovery he must have felt when, with "optic glass," he swept that part of the heavens where Marlowe's morning star gleams in the radiance of the opening dawn. The conditions seemed exceptionally favorable for the production of a great work. The historian of the Renaissance was to crown his work by describing the finest product of the Renaissance in England,—indeed, if we include Shakespere, as Mr. Symonds still intends to do, we may call it the finest product of the Renaissance in Europe. Could an Englishman whose spirit had been so finely touched to such fine issues, and who knew the Renaissance so well, fail to be adequately acquainted with the marks left by that tidal wave of human energy upon the coast line of the English mind? Our expectations being strung so high, we were the more deceived. The very preface inspires a qualm of misgiving, for there it is stated that this book is a revision of work laid aside as unfit

\* SHAKESPERE'S PREDECESSORS IN THE ENGLISH DRAMA. By John Addington Symonds. London: Smith, Elder & Co.

for publication more than twenty years before. This, however, but poorly prepares the reader for the successive disappointments in store for him in the course of his perusal of these pages.

Not that this is a valueless book; it is simply, as a whole, unworthy of the author's great reputation. It has its sound and excellent portions, but it is full of inequalities. At times the tone is that of a youthful aspirant for magazine honors; again it is that of the literary master which Mr. Symonds now is. He who goes to it for his first introduction to the subject, will find much that is interesting and instructive, and will doubtless part with the author on friendly enough terms. There are fifteen chapters, dealing with the rise of the English drama from its origin in the miracle plays to its full evolution as a species in Greene and Marlowe. There are chapters dealing with such related topics as theatres, playwrights, actors, play-goers, masques at court, etc. The last three chapters (pp. 170) are devoted to John Lyly, Greene, Peele, Nash, Lodge, and Marlowe. Naturally many illustrative side-lights are thrown upon the condition of English society during the period treated. A large number of old plays, inaccessible to most readers, are skilfully analyzed, the raciest and most poetical passages being quoted. There is a full table of contents at the beginning of the book and at the head of each chapter; but we miss an index, especially an index to the numerous valuable passages cited. The following list of *errata* may be of service to some one: At p. 237, Bacon is said to have been in his twenty-third year in 1587; he was, in fact, born in 1561. At p. 326, the date, 1515, is wrong, being probably a misprint for 1575. At p. 580, the name of E. W. Gosse is misprinted. At p. 596, last line, for *lamb* read *iamb*; p. 597, seventh line from foot, for *fourth* read *third*; p. 638, second quotation, for *illit-eral* read *illiberal*.

In an excellent passage at the beginning of the book, the author lays out an excellent programme, showing that he well knows what is expected of a writer who undertakes a study of this nature. "The ruling instinct of the present century demands," says he, "and in my opinion demands rightly, some demonstration of a process in the facts collected and presented by a student to the public." Some principle of evolution must be disclosed "before we have a right to style the result of our studies anything better than a bundle of literary essays." This is sound doctrine, but one must look elsewhere for its realization. Take, for instance, the chapter entitled "Masques at Court." Roughly speaking, about half of this chapter is devoted to descriptions of certain Italian masques, and the other half to those of Ben Jonson and Milton,

who were about as truly "predecessors" of Shakespere as Keats and Tennyson were predecessors of Wordsworth. Since, however, the author's special fitness to discuss the Elizabethan drama appears to consist in the fact that he is the historian of the Renaissance, the indulgent reader will readily pardon digressions like this upon the Italian masques, especially as it is all so interesting. But let us not be misled by any such solemn delusion as that all these things form an essential part of a "demonstration of a process." Mr. Symonds records, at p. 337, the fact that the masque "received no adequate treatment in England during the reigns of our Tudor sovereigns." If, then, it was not till Shakespere's work was nearly done that the masque was developed, why give it such prominence in a work devoted to men and things which made straight the way for Shakespere? In general, the same criticism must be passed upon the work as a whole. Mr. Symonds has said it: his book is merely "a bundle of literary essays," — a few in his best style, several indifferent, all interesting, — the whole lacking that organic symmetry and completeness which it is so much easier to dream of than to achieve.

This, however, is by no means the worst, and of that *worst* it is an ungrateful task to speak. In plain English, Mr. Symonds is frequently guilty of encumbering his book with that kind of literary ballast known in editorial cant as "padding." That this is a serious charge to bring against one of the foremost Englishmen of letters of the day, the present writer is painfully aware; but several passages of trivial or irrelevant matter compel the conclusion that the author felt bound by some exigency to make a book of a given size, and that, not possessing the requisite amount of sound material, he was driven to shifts unworthy of his reputation in order to "bombast out" his chapters, some of which read as if they had been hastily concocted for some ephemeral magazine. But two instances of this inferior work shall be mentioned. At pp. 260-1, he treats us to a welcome translation from the Italian of Cecchi, in which the "Romantic Drama" is genially personified as a "fresh country lass." This passage is racy, natural, charming. But Mr. Symonds cannot stop there. Mindful, one is forced to think, of the demands of inexorable publishers, he carries on the allegory through three pages more, insisting at the close upon seeing the lady home "to torchlit chambers of Whitehall and Greenwich," when he drily observes: "You may call her a grisette." Pass for the dignity of history; but this is the indignity of poetry! Again at p. 571, finding himself at the end of his account of Peele's plays, he introduces a quotation of fifty-three lines from



one of his odes. Although related in no wise to the subject of the book, it is good in itself, and, padding for padding, much more acceptable than the author's prose. But the climax is reached when, after informing us that the same spirit animates Peele's poem on the Order of the Garter, Mr. Symonds proceeds to quote a dozen lines from that poem, consisting solely of an enumeration of the names of the first knights of the order. While the reader is rubbing his eyes over these lines, the following foot-note catches his attention and gives him a lesson in human nature which alone is worth the price of the book:

"Piety to these knights of the French wars, among whom I count a collateral ancestor, Sir Richard Fitz-Simon, rather than admiration for the poetry of this passage, makes me print these lines."

Here we have, at last, the "link of connection between man and man" which furnished a motive for the introduction of these two pages from Peele's odes. We can imagine what Thackeray would have said to this: he would have indulged in his favorite quotation from King Solomon.

Even in the sound and weighty portions of the book, one fails to find the marks of the master-hand so frequently traceable in the history of the Renaissance in Italy. There the author moves with the security and freedom of one "to the manner born." Here he is, like those he guides, an alien but partially domesticated. He is a companionable guide wherever others have gone before and marked the way; but he draws back from the tangled forest, accepts not the challenge of the mountain peak, leads to no exhilarating explorations of the mysteries of unpenetrated glens. Metaphor aside, there is nothing new in the book, nothing that has not already been as well or better said, nothing that makes it either indispensable or even very useful to the student who has already broken the ground. In extenuation of all this the author would doubtless plead what, indeed, he distinctly states in his preface: viz., that the book was not written for scholars—that its aim is the honorable one of making the subject familiar to readers who might shrink from the perusal of a work like Professor Ward's "History of English Dramatic Literature." This plea might make the present criticism seem futile, were it not for two circumstances: first, the just expectations aroused by the high reputation of the writer; secondly, the promise, made at the outset, of exhibiting the subject as a uniform growth with its organic interdependence of parts. Considered merely as an attempt to popularize a somewhat remote portion of literary history, this work is capable of being very useful, although it falls short of the high standard fixed for this class

of books by the accomplished contributors to Mr. John Morley's series of literary biographies, among whom Mr. Symonds himself holds an honorable place.

MELVILLE B. ANDERSON.

#### THE RELIGIONS OF THE ORIENT.\*

There is an inexhaustible fascination in the study of the religions of the world. Whether Mr. Herbert Spencer is right or not (and what is there that this high-priest of "Agnosticism" doesn't know?) in asserting that all religion had its beginning in the worship of "ghosts," it is certain that there has never been anything in our world more real than has been the power of the religious instincts and faiths of men. This it is which, more than any other one thing, has awed and charmed, mastered and molded the human heart and life.

Comparison, insisted the great Cuvier, comparison is the lamp of science. To a large extent this is true. When knowledge holds communion with knowledge, truth will shine forth self-evidenced in its own light. And this is nowhere more notably the case than in the comparative study of the various great world-religions, whether of the past or of the present. But the science of comparative theology is itself comparatively new, and is still far from having succeeded in clearing up either the myths or the mysteries which invest its deep problems. One of the most intent students in this field of investigation and thought, in this country, was the late Mr. Samuel Johnson. His two volumes on "Oriental Religions, and their Relation to Universal Religion," the one on the religions of China, the other on those of India, published during his life-time, are well known. His third volume, in line with the preceding, and but just now published, relates to the religions of Persia. Mr. Johnson was not himself an erudite scholar. The oriental languages he never learned; into their mysterious shrines where they spoke as their own spirits gave them utterance, each one in the tongue wherein he was born, he never presumed to enter. He claimed to know only so much as others who had been there have reported. But, as Emerson said, why should one care to swim across a stream when somebody else has already thrown a bridge over it? Nor does one need to have himself gone through the almost infinite lingo of the ancient sacred classics of India, or China, or Persia, with—as no less an authority than Max Müller declares—their mountains of chaff, before being

\* ORIENTAL RELIGIONS AND THEIR RELATIONS TO UNIVERSAL RELIGION. By Samuel Johnson. With an Introduction by O. B. Frothingham. Vol. III—Persia. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.



able to estimate the spirit and drift, results and influences, of these antique faiths and forms of thought. As Prof. Müller himself wrote of our author: "What I admire most in Samuel Johnson was his not being discouraged by the rubbish with which the religions of the East are overwhelmed, but his quietly looking for the nuggets. And has he not found them? And has he not found what is better than ever so many nuggets—that great golden dawn of truth, that there is a religion behind all religions, and that happy is the man that knows it in these days of materialism and atheism?"

A more serious question, however, as to Mr. Johnson's qualification for such a task as he had set before him, would relate to the preconceived theory or philosophy of religion, and which could not but largely color his views and conclusions. And this the reader may as well understand at the outset. Mr. Frothingham, in his Introduction, says of this volume, like the others, that it is "saturated through and through with the religious spirit; it was written in the service of religion;" but, as he adds, not of religion as commonly apprehended. His acquaintance with Eastern faiths was certainly acquired from books; but, says his friend, "his opinion of Christianity was rather critical than experimental." Mr. Johnson was a teacher of the gospel of evolution, not of the "gospel of the grace of God." He began by assuming and then "insisting that there is no 'supernatural' in the nature of things, and that miracle is an absurdity on its face," etc. All of which, it must be admitted, is a pretty big assumption wherewith to begin the study of Religion. And yet there is a noble spirit of reverence and candor pervading all that he writes which must command the respect of every reader.

In seeking to interpret the evolution of religion, as it came to be in Persia, he begins with a consideration of the development of the consciousness of the personal Will and of the Moral Sense, and the grand symbolism that was suggested by this advent of Will as a personal power. He then proceeds to point out the gradual development of the Avestar dualism; its morality; its literature; the cuneiform monuments of the Accadian and the Assyrian; the relations of the Hebrew and the Chaldean. He then discusses the political forces, as those of Babylon, Cyrus, Persia, Alexander the Great; the Sassanian empires; following this are his studies of the Philosophies, as Manichæism and Gnosticism; and then of Islam, wherein the work of Mahomet is shown to reveal a continuous progress towards the recognition of the Universe as Infinite and as One. This is one of the most interesting chapters in the entire volume.

To those who are interested in studies of

this nature, the book will be found one of deep and really fascinating significance. And this is so, even though one may differ most radically from the author in his underlying assumption, which pervades the whole discussion. Those, however, who believe Christianity to be all it purports to be—a revelation, a gospel,—will, of course, strongly dissent from certain positions taken, and may find in the end only the more reason for holding to the absolute transcendence of the faith and the hopes, the spirit and the potency, which spring from the gospel of Him who is the world's Redeemer as well as Teacher.

SIMEON GILBERT.

#### RECENT BOOKS OF POETRY.\*

Among recent books of poetry the new work of Alfred Lord Tennyson has an indisputable claim to the first place, both on the ground of its authorship and of its great intrinsic value. The appearance of this noble work may well give us pause ere we assert that the Laureate has played his part in English literature or won all the laurels allotted to him by the just fates. If some apparent weaknesses lie in some of the productions of his late years, we must not forget that these same years have given us "Rizpah" and "Columbus" and "Montenegro," and that now, with liberal hands, they bring us the historical drama of "Becket." In one sense, this work cannot place the writer upon any higher pinnacle of fame than that which has long been occupied by the poet of "Tithonus" and "Enone" and "Ulysses," of "The Princess" and "In Memoriam" and the Arthurian Idyls; but it is a composition not unworthy of the sovereign poet who wrote it, one which would be beyond the power of any but the strongest hand, a stately dramatic poem not soon to be forgot-

\* BECKET. By Alfred Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate. New York: Macmillan & Co.

FERISHTAH'S FANCIES. By Robert Browning. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

A NEW YEAR'S MASQUE, AND OTHER POEMS. By Edith M. Thomas. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

CALLIRHOE: FAIR ROSAMUND. By Michael Field. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

SONGS OF THE SILENT WORLD, AND OTHER POEMS. By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

POEMS. By Charles Kingsley. New edition, in two volumes. London: Macmillan & Co.

THE POEMS OF FREDERICK LOCKER. Authorized edition. New York: White, Stokes & Allen.

LYRA ELEGANTIORUM; a collection of some of the best specimens of *Vers de Société* and *Vers d'Occasion* in the English language, by deceased authors. Edited by Frederick Locker. New York: White, Stokes & Allen.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF LUCY LARCOM. Household edition. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

HEINE'S BOOK OF SONGS. Compiled from the Translations by Sir Theodore Martin, K.C.B., and Edgar A. Bowring, C.B. New York: White, Stokes & Allen.

ten. Like "Harold" and like "Queen Mary," it is a vigorous presentation of an important epoch in English history, and is perhaps a piece of finer workmanship than either of its predecessors in the field of historical drama.

Lord Tennyson has been happy in his arrangement of the action of this drama. Conscious that the struggle between king and archbishop could not alone furnish forth a well rounded and symmetrical play, he has interwoven legend with history, and bound up the story of Rosamund with the sterner tale of passion which ended in the tragedy of Canterbury Cathedral. Thus the virile and the tender go hand in hand, and while the momentous conflict of church and state is outlined in well-nigh epic proportions, the scenes in the bower at Woodstock relieve the monotony with soft shadings, and give completeness and harmony to the whole by the addition of a grateful lyric touch.

A scene in a Norman castle serves as prologue to the play. Henry and Becket are seated at a game of chess, and the chancellor's bishop gives checkmate to his opponent's king—an ominous presage. The Archbishop of Canterbury lies at the point of death, and Henry urges upon the reluctant Becket the succession. The action of the play proper begins just after his assumption of the archiepiscopal dignity, and his resolution to devote himself henceforth to the church alone finds expression in these words:

"I served King Henry well as Chancellor;  
I am his no more, and I must serve the Church.  
This Canterbury is only less than Rome,  
And all my doubts I fling from me like dust,  
Winnow and scatter all scruples to the wind,  
And all the pulesance of the warrior,  
And all the wisdom of the Chancellor,  
And all the heap'd experiences of life,  
I cast upon the side of Canterbury—  
Our holy mother Canterbury, who sits  
With tatter'd robes. Laics and barons, thro'  
The random gift of careless kings, have grasped  
Her livings, her advowsons, granges, farms,  
And goodly acres—we will make her whole;  
Not one rood lost. And for these Royal customs,  
These ancient Royal customs—they are Royal,  
Not of the Church—and let them be anathema,  
And all that speak for them anathema."

The various phases of the struggle between the king and the erewhile vassal who now o'er-tops him by virtue of his newly-acquired power, are graphically presented; the stormy scene at Northampton Castle, when Becket refuses to give his sanction to the constitutional customs, the presentation of the king's claims and the flight of Becket to France, the "meeting of the kings" at Montmirail, the reconciliation at Fréteval, form successively the subjects of ensuing scenes, carrying us to the close of the fourth act. To describe the action of the fifth, we must first take up the story of Rosamund as it is here given.

A lyric, lovely even among Tennysonian lyrics, opens the first scene in Rosamund's bower. It has the form of a duet heard among the trees.

1. Is it the wind of the dawn that I hear in the pine overhead?
2. No; but the voice of the deep as it hollows the cliffs of the land.
1. Is there a voice coming up with the voice of the deep from the strand,  
One coming up with a song in the flush of the glimmering red?
2. Love that is born of the deep coming up with the sun from the sea.
1. Love that can shape or can shatter a life till the life shall have fled?
2. Nay, let us welcome him, Love that can lift up a life from the dead.
1. Keep him away from the lone little isle. Let us be, let us be,
2. Nay, let him make it his own, let him reign in it—he, it is he,  
Love that is born of the deep coming up with the sun from the sea.

As the stately cadence dies away, Henry and Rosamund enter, and, in the enjoyment of each other's love, seek, the one to forget her loneliness, the other the cares of state and the passions of his controversy with the church. The scene in the bower, where the queen has found her way to Rosamund, is superbly conceived, but the ordinary form of the legend is not followed, and the arm of Eleanor is arrested, as it is uplifted to plunge the dagger into the heart of her rival, by Becket, who knows the secret of the entrance, and who appears just in time to save the threatened life, and who bears Rosamund away to a nunnery. It is the report of this act which drives Henry to desperation, and wrings from him the fatal words:

"Will no man free me from this pestilent priest?"

The last scenes of the last act are laid first in the monastery of Canterbury, and afterwards in the cathedral itself. The imperfect, but, on the whole, heroic character of Becket, whose presence and influence dominate the entire play, here assumes grander proportions than ever. The shadow of his doom is upon him, but he fearlessly defies the threats of the knights who burst in upon his privacy.

"Ye think to scare me from my loyalty  
To God and to the Holy Father. No!  
Tho' all the swords in England flashed above me  
Ready to fall at Henry's word or yours—  
Tho' all the loud-lung'd trumpets upon earth  
Blared from the heights of all the thrones of her kings,  
Blowing the world against me, I would stand  
Clothed with the full authority of Rome,  
Mail'd in the perfect panoply of faith,  
First of the foremost of their files, who die  
For God, to people heaven in the great day  
When God makes up his jewels."

Daunted for the moment, his foes leave him, but only to fall upon him on the altar steps of the cathedral, whither he repairs, robed with the dignities of his office, to meet the death from which he does not shrink. Too proud to seek safety in flight, he meets his murderers, and his bearing warrants his words:

"I am readier to be slain, than thou to slay."

Even then they hesitate, but only for a moment. The knights close in upon him and deal the fatal blows. As Becket falls wounded to earth, he exclaims:

"I do commend my cause to God, the Virgin,  
St. Denis of France and St. Alphege of England,  
And all the tutelar Saints of Canterbury,"

while a thunder-storm, long since gathering without, breaks over the church and strikes terror to the hearts of the murderers.

Such, in brief outline, is the latest work of the Laureate: the story of Fair Rosamund and King Henry and Thomas Becket, as interpreted for us by the genius of the greatest of the great English poets now living, and no unworthy addition to the volume of his past work.

"Pray, Reader, have you eaten ortolans  
Ever in Italy?  
Recall how cooks there cook them: for my plan's  
To — Lyre with Spit ally."

In this uncompromising fashion, Mr. Browning's latest poem, "Ferishtah's Fancies," begins. Ferishtah is a Persian dervish, who holds sundry conversations with his disciples upon ethical problems, and solves them all in cheerfully optimistic fashion. It is needless to say that the poem exhibits those perversities of style and expression so characteristic of all Mr. Browning's later work. One somewhat striking characteristic of Ferishtah is the introduction by him of occasional Hebrew quotations, to give flavor to his parabolic teachings. This will be found very edifying by the general reader. The dervish very naturally is made to get the best of every argument, and is inclined to take a contented view of things in general. In the last of these "fancies," which is entitled a "Bean-stripe; also, Apple-eating," the general question between the optimist and the pessimist is argued out to the somewhat lame ending that the pessimist is in the wrong because he does not make away with himself, in justification of his view of life:

"The sourly-sage, for whom life's best was death,  
Lived out his seventy years, looked hale, laughed loud,  
Liked—above all—his dinner,—lied, in short."

The argument is quite as conclusive as Dr. Johnson's famous refutation of Berkeley.

"So with your meal, my poem: masticate  
Sense, slight, and song there!  
Digest these, and I praise your peptic's state;  
Nothing found wrong there."

Perhaps a correct prose interpretation of this passage from the prologue would be: if you can digest this poem you must have the stomach of an ostrich. But Mr. Browning never lets us long forget that he is a poet. The lyric passages interspersed among these fancies are doubly welcome for their arid environment.

"Not with my Soul, Love!—bid no Soul like mine  
Lap thee around nor leave the poor Sense room!  
Soul—travel-worn, toil-weary—would confine  
Along with Soul, Soul's gains from glow and gloom,

Captures from soarings high and divings deep.  
Spoil-laden Soul, how should such memories sleep?  
Take Sense, too—let me love entire and whole—  
Not with my Soul!

"Eyes shall meet eyes, and find no eyes between,  
Lips feed on lips, no other lips to fear!  
No past, no future—so thine arms but screen  
The present from surprise! not there, 'tis here—  
Not then, 'tis now!—back, memories that intrude!  
Wake, Love, the universe our solitude,  
And, over all the rest, oblivion roll—  
Sense quenching Soul!"

A strain like this outweighs a whole volume of such blank verse as that in which Ferishtah's fancies are couched.

The volume just published of the poems of Miss Edith M. Thomas is a thing of exquisite beauty in external finish and mechanical execution, and its contents are worthy of more attention than those of first volumes usually deserve. The dreamy, half-mystical interpretation of nature, which is unpleasant in the author's prose sketches, abounds here, and produces a very different impression in the form of verse, which is the only form for which it is fitted. The reader carries away no definite images from these verses; half-formed impressions are all that remain, soon to become effaced; neither is any considerable metrical gift displayed in their composition. These considerations debar them from any claim to the rank of poetry in the high sense, but their aim does not seem to have been noticeably higher than the plane upon which they stand. Considerable powers of expression, with a distinct consciousness of their limitations, have gone to the production of these pieces, and a restraint altogether admirable has kept out the multitude of false notes which are sounded in all over-ambitious verse. False notes are not altogether wanting: the conceit which makes the symbol for the United States dollar a subject for a piece of serious allegory is distinctly such; but faults of taste are rare, and a simple but true harmony characterizes nearly all of the pieces. There are even a few of them to which the strictures made have no application, and which rise to the dignity of genuine poetry. This may be said of some of the sonnets, such as those entitled "Frost" and "The Oread"; it is also true of the poem called *St. Cecilia*, which is an evident inspiration of the "St. Agnes' Eve," and the "Sir Galahad" of Tennyson, and of which this is the closing stanza:

"Sometimes, on dead midwinter night,  
When gardens lie in folded white,  
And giddy stars slide out of sight,  
Past cliffs of ice,—  
Lo! suddenly an angel stands  
With fair red roses in his hands,  
Dew-wet, and plucked in morning-lands  
Of Paradise!"

But the best of all that this volume has to offer us is the group of mythological poems



called "Demeter's Search," "Persephone," and "Lityerses and the Reapers." In these poems the author seems for once to have transcended her limitations, and to find a larger and richer form of speech and a more musical utterance. Here are the words of Persephone to Demeter, as the time draws near for her sojourn in the kingdom of Hades, not to her "the dark benign deep underworld," but a place of horror to which her steps are loth to guide her:

"Mother, the harvest is garnered, men taste of the season's new wheat,  
They lie at thy banquet like gods till melody quickens their feet,  
And they rise and dance at the call of the vine-crowned lord of the hills.  
Maidens are gathering flowers by all the Sicilian rills,—  
The last late flowers that kindle the meadows with color of fire;  
The strong, gray sea from his caverns and gulfs sings a song of desire,  
 wooing the earth in speech that was taught the immortals of old;  
The wind with the sun is at rest, and the clouds are a flock in the fold."

The summer has been a long and happy one, and dear to Persephone are the sights and sounds of earth and the presence of mankind; but the time of departure is near:

"Ah, mother, I leave them, ah, ah! for a kingdom the gods have not seen,  
Where the streams are not flowing that bound it, the grass on the banks is not green,  
For the crown with the iron clasp, for the sceptre moulded of lead:—  
Better a slave on the earth than a majesty swaying the dead!  
Thou rememb'rest my face in those days when I came from the dwelling of night,  
Pallid and strange as the Moon when she rides in Hyperion's light:  
These lips were as waters bound up with the frost in the dead of the year;  
These eyes were as fountains the summer has spent, for the thirst of a year;  
So should I seem, couldst thou see me, descended past starlight and morn,  
While storms whistle out of the East and scatter the mildewing corn!"

The two poems called "Callirrhoe" and "Fair Rosamund," which are published together in one volume, and to which the name of Michael Field is added as that of the author, have attracted some attention—more, we should judge, on account of their ambitious choice of theme and treatment than for any considerable beauty found in them. "Fair Rosamund" is another treatment of the much handled story of the maze at Woodstock. "Callirrhoe" is a poem of the early growth of the worship of Dionysus in Greece, and turns upon the anger of a priest of Bacchus, whose amorous overtures have been repulsed by "Callirrhoe," and who calls down upon Calydon, her city, a fierce plague. Through the oak of Dodona, the oracle demands the sacrifice of the maiden, or of some one who is willing to die in her stead, as the only means whereby the offended god may be appeased. Callirrhoe offers herself to be sacrificed; but the priest, who still loves her, plunges the knife into his own heart. She afterwards, loving him when too late, takes

her own life. Both poems are dramatic in form. The blank verse in which they are written shows at rare intervals a touch of strength, but many such would not palliate the offense of such a passage as—

"I hear a sound as if the branches snored,  
Hollow and peaceful."

A ruggedness which is but crudity, and a force which is but violence, characterize the composition of these two pieces throughout. We cannot help recalling another poet, the first fruits of whose genius called us again to deplore the fate of Rosamund, and led our footsteps to the Calydonian land. Here was a like ambition, and here were also faults; but here, too, was a power for which no ambition was too high, and in comparison with which such work as the present becomes insignificant.

In "Songs of the Silent World" Miss Elizabeth Stuart Phelps has given expression in verse to many and varied moods. The verse is of that very large class which can have absolutely no objective value, and whose only excuse for publication can lie in the satisfaction it causes the writer and his friends. These verses make little pretense, however, and it is well that they do not, for they have no claim to consideration upon technical grounds, being rough and without melody. The morbid religious tone which we expect to find in any of the writings of this lady is not wanting, although only in a few instances particularly obtrusive.

The publication of the poems of Charles Kingsley in the exquisite style of the "Eversley edition" of his novels was a well-merited recognition of their sterling merits. In this new and highly acceptable form, these two volumes should find a place in every collection of the good things in English literature. Every one knows "The Three Fishers" and "The Sands of Dee" by heart, but to the majority of readers "Andromeda" and "The Saint's Tragedy" are mere names. They know that the latter is the story of Elizabeth of Hungary, and they have heard it said that the former contains the best English hexameters ever made; but farther than this their acquaintance with the works does not extend. Charles Kingsley never wrote anything that was not well worth knowing. There is a healthfulness and a strength in his utterances which have furnished inspiration to many lives, and which are in no danger of being outworn. Whether in novel, in poem, or in sermon, there is a directness and a manliness in his manner of speech which compels the admiration even of the listeners whose views are fundamentally opposed to those which he enunciates.

The new edition of the poems of Frederick Locker is more complete than the one published a year ago, containing thirteen addi-



tional poems—each of them a gem that, once owning, we could ill spare. Here is the one called "An Epitaph":

"Her worth, her wit, her loving smile  
Were with me but a little while;  
She came, she went; yet though that Voice  
Is hushed that made the heart rejoice,  
And though the grave is dark and chill,  
Her memory is fragrant still,—  
She stands on the eternal hill.

"Here pause, kind soul, whoe'er you be,  
And weep for her, and pray for me."

This new edition makes a beautiful volume, and is adorned with a miniature etching of the poet.

Published at the same time and in the same form as the preceding work, we have the "Lyra Elegantiarum," of which Mr. Locker is the editor—a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of the selection. If any man ought to know what good society verse is, he should be that man, having made so much of it himself. He refers to this kind of metrical composition as "a species of poetry which, in its more restricted form, bears somewhat the same relation to the poetry of lofty imagination and deep feeling, that the Dresden china shepherds and shepherdesses of the last century do to the sculpture of Donatello and Michael Angelo," and tells us that in it "a boudoir decorum is or ought always to be preserved; where sentiment never surges into passion, and where humor never overflows into boisterous merriment." Of the kind of poetry thus characterized, Mr. Locker has made a collection, taken entirely from the work of deceased writers, and in which Prior and Praed, Moore and Herrick, Landor, and many others, are worthily represented. The editor tells us that he "trusts he has gathered together nearly all the *vers de société* of real merit in the English language,"—a not unreasonable confidence, when we consider that his selections are four hundred and thirty in number. Thackeray is omitted for copyright reasons, but all other deceased writers who deserve a place here may be found. One cannot but regret that the plan of the book did not admit of its including the best things of Holmes and Calverley, of Austin Dobson, and—not least—of Mr. Locker himself; but the restrictions made give the book a completeness which it would not otherwise have.

The three hundred closely printed pages which are needed to contain the verse of Lucy Larcom bear unmistakable witness to the industry of one of our most estimable women of letters. Her verses are simply written, and are such as may have a strong hold upon simple minds. Of the heights and depths of poetry, there can be no question in their consideration. Most regions of the imagination and most phases of passion are entirely un-

known to her; but she has attained to a considerable facility in the expression of a mild form of religious sentiment, and of the gentler aspect of nature as seen in her New England home. With a range thus narrow, so large an amount of verse must necessarily be repetition and re-repetition of a few well-worn ideas. A refined and delicate fancy is her substitute for imagination, and kindly feeling what she has to give in the place of passion. While these offer nothing to the true lover of poetry, there are many who, lacking the artistic perceptions needed for its enjoyment, may find in such verse as this a pleasure analogous at least—although far lower—to that which persons of acuter sensibilities find in the works of the genuine poets.

The dainty little volume of Heine's "Book of Songs," just published, gives us nothing but old matter, consisting of the translations made by Theodore Martin and Edgar Bowring, the best of each being selected for the present issue. These translators have probably done the best that can be done for Heine in English; but how poor that is in comparison with the faultless German verses! The beauty of all lyric verse—and none more so than Heine's—is incommunicable in any alien speech; and the best of translators must always read almost like parodies to those who are familiar with the originals.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

#### SAMUEL PEPYS.\*

No space which THE DIAL could spare me would afford me a chance of saying what I wish to say, and what ought to be said, about the Diary and Correspondence of Pepys. It is to the last half of the seventeenth century what Boswell's Johnson is to the larger part of the eighteenth; and the only contemporary Diary with which it can be compared is that of Evelyn, which covers the same period, though it begins at an earlier and ends at a much later date. Evelyn and Pepys were acquaintances and friends, and it is instructive to look over their shoulders as they sit jotting down the same occurrences on the same day. Here is the first entry in Pepys:

"Jan. 1st (Lord's Day).—This morning (we living lately in the garret) I rose, put on my suit with great skirts, having not lately worn any other clothes but them. Went to Mr. Gunning's chapel at Exeter House, where he made a very good sermon upon these words

\*DIARY AND CORRESPONDENCE OF SAMUEL PEPYS, ESQ., F.R.S. From his MS. Cypher in the Pepysian Library, with a Life and Notes by Richard Lord Braybrooke. Deciphered, with Additional Notes, by Rev. Mynors Bright, M.A., President and Senior Fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge. In ten volumes. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company.

'That in the fulness of time God sent his Son, made of a woman,' etc., showing that by 'made under the law' is meant his circumcision, which is solemnized this day."

Here is the entry in Evelyn's diary for the same day:

"Jan. 1.—Begging God's blessing for the following years, I went to Excester Chapell, where Mr. Gunning began the years on 4 Galatians, v. 3 to 7, shewing the love of Christ in shedding his blood so early for us."

Exeter House (if the reader of this notice cares to know the fact), was built by Lord Burleigh, whose son was the first Earl of Exeter, from whom it was named. Nearly on the same site stood Exeter Change, which has given place to the present Exeter Hall. Think of Pepys at Exeter Hall! The last entry in the Diary of Pepys (May 31, 1669) is swallowed by a blank in the Diary of Evelyn, the two diarists meeting in spirit, on paper, for the last time on May 20th. Here is Evelyn's jotting for that day:

"20th.—This evening was borne my third daughter, who was baptized on the 25th by the name of Susanna."

And here is the jotting of Pepys:

"20th.—Up and to the Office. At noon, the whole office—Brouncker, J. Minnes, T. Middleton, Samuel Pepys, and Captain Cox—to dine with the Parish at the Three Tuns, this day being Ascension Day, where exceeding good discourse among the merchants. With my eyes mighty weary, and my head full of care how to get my accounts and business settled against my journey, home to supper and to bed. Yesterday, at my coming home, I found that my wife had, on a sudden, put away Matt upon some falling out, and I doubt Matt did call her ill names by my wife's own discourse; but I did not meddle to say anything upon it, but let her go, being not sorry, because now we may get one that speaks French, to go abroad with us."

The last entry of Pepys is dated eleven days later:

"31st.—Up very betimes, and continued all the morning with W. Hewer, upon examining and stating my accounts, in order to the fitting myself to go abroad beyond sea, which the ill condition of my eyes, and my neglect for a year or two, hath kept me behindhand in, and so as to render it very difficult now, and troublesome to my mind to do it; but I this day made a satisfactory entrance therein. Had another meeting with the Duke of York, at White Hall, on yesterday's work, and made a good advance: and so, being called by my wife, we to the Park, Mary Batelier, and a Dutch gentleman, a friend of hers, being with us. Thence to 'The World's End,' a drinking-house by the Park, and there merry, and so home late. And thus ends all that I doubt I shall ever be able to do with my eyes in the keeping of my Journal. I not being able to do it any longer, having done now so long as to undo my eyes almost every time that I take a pen in my hand, and therefore, whatever comes of it, I must forbear; and therefore resolve from this time forward, to have it kept by my people in long-hand, and must be contented to set down no more than is fit for them and all the world to know; or, if there is anything, which cannot be much, now my amours are past, and my eyes hindering me in almost all other pleasures, I must endeavor to keep a margin in my book open, to add, here and here, a note in short-hand, with my own hand. And

so I betake myself to that course, which is almost as much as to see myself go into my grave; for which, and all the discomforts that will accompany my being blind, the good God prepare me."

God be wi' you, S. P.!

No one can read Pepys as he ought to be read without a tolerable amount of knowledge of the reign of Charles the Second, and all that pertains thereto, the back-stairs scandal of White Hall and Hampton Court, the circuitous windings of Gray's Inn, and the inns, taverns and ordinaries thereabout, the ways of the waiters at Will's and the other coffee-houses, and the situation of the theatres, especially the Duke's play-house. He should be familiar with all the great actors and actresses of the period, with Betterton and Mohun, with Nell Gwynn and her prologizing in the broad-brimmed straw-hat, and her sisterhood of singing and dancing abigails. He should have a nodding if not a speaking acquaintance with the dramatists of the Restoration—with Tom Killigrew, Will Davenant, Sir Samuel Juke, Sir Robert Howard and his famous brother-in-law, John Dryden; not forgetting Sir Charles Sedley and Lord Rochester—a pair of sad, mad, bad English villains. He ought to be able to divine the infinite secrecies of the royal chamber, and its daily and nightly occupants, to catch the chat over the card-tables, to understand the winks, interpret the shrugs, and stimulate the pleasant speeches that provoke and end in duels, of which the most noted that has come down to us is the one between the Earl of Shrewsbury and the Duke of Buckingham, all about dry Lady Shrewsbury, who hath for great while been Mistress to the Duke of Buckingham. The reader of Pepys should be hand-in-glove with the Montagues, with General Monk, afterwards Duke of Albemarle, with the Duke of York, with Sir George Carteret, with Admiral Pen, with the Countess of Castlemaine, with the Duchess of Portsmouth, with his Most Sacred Majesty Carolus Secundus,

"Who never said a foolish thing,  
And never did a wise one."

Pepys was a rake and a man of business; an assiduous courtier and an incorruptible patriot; a gay gallant and an uxurious husband; a musician and a man of science; a collector of old plays and new pamphlets; a reader of Beaumont and Fletcher, Webster, Massinger, Davenant—even of Shakespere! The son of a tailor, he was educated at St. Paul's School, at Trinity College, Cambridge, and at Magdalene. Backed by his cousin, Sir Edward Montagu, he became Secretary to the two Generals of the Fleet, Clerk of Acts of the Navy, Secretary to the Commissioners for managing the affairs of Tangier, and Purveyor-general of the Victualling Department, Member of the House of Commons, Secretary for the Affairs of the

Navy, and Member of the Royal Society. He was the Broker of Charles the Second, and the Diarist of all time. How he wrote in cypher, when his cypher was unravelled, with other matters connected therewith, the Rev. Mynors Bright relates as in duty bound; and I refer the reader of this hasty notice to his admirable edition of the Diary and Correspondence of Samuel Pepys, Esq., F.R.S. A single extract from his voluminous confessions (one of many that I should like to make) will show one side of his character and taste. Here it is, in part, against the penultimate day of September, 1662:

"29th. (Michaelmas-day) . . . I sent for some dinner and then dined, Mrs. Margaret Pen being by, to whom I had spoke to go along with us to a play this afternoon; and then to the King's Theatre, where we saw Midsummer's Night's Dream, which I had never seen before, nor shall ever again, for it is the most insipid, ridiculous play that ever I saw in my life. I saw, I confess, some good dancing and some handsome women, which was all my pleasure."

A little over a century and a half after this entry, another famous diarist made a jotting in his journal, under the date of January 15, 1826. Here is a fragment of it:

"Meantime, I will correct that curious fellow Pepys Diary. I mean the article I have made of it for the Quarterly."

On the same day he wrote to his son-in-law in London:

"I enclose the article on Pepys. It is totally uncorrected, so I wish, of course, much to see it in proof if possible, as it must be dreadfully inaccurate. . . The subject is like a good sirloin, which requires only to be basted with its own drippings. I had little trouble of research or reference; perhaps I have made it too long, or introduced too many extracts—if so, use the pruning-knife, hedge-bill, or axe, *ad libitum*. You know I don't care a curse about what I write, or what becomes of it."

The article was published in the Quarterly, and the honorarium was £100. "But this is far too much—£50 is plenty. Still 'I must *impatios the gratuity*' for the present." So Scott wrote to Lockhart, who tells us that he never observed him more delighted with any book whatsoever. He had ever afterwards many of its queer terms and phrases on his lips.

RICHARD HENRY STODDARD.

#### BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

THE "Correspondence and Diaries of John Wilson Croker," edited by Louis J. Jennings, and published by Scribner's Sons, fill two rather formidable volumes with respect to size, above 900 octavo pages being compressed between their covers. Mr. Croker was a native of Ireland, his birth occurring in 1780. At the age of twenty-two, he was admitted to the Irish bar; and within five years he was elected to Parliament. In 1809, he received the appointment of Secretary of the Admiralty, a place which he held for twenty years. He had previously acquired con-

siderable literary repute by the publication of a couple of satires, in which the Irish stage and the city of Dublin were served up with caustic wit. These were comparatively youthful effusions, the first being written when the author was only twenty-three. The year of his entering Parliament, Mr. Croker produced a history of Ireland, which met with favor. Among the number of works following this at intervals, his "Stories from the History of England," written for juvenile readers, was very popular, suggesting, it is said, the idea to Scott of "The Tales of a Grandfather." An annotated edition of Bushnell's "Life of Johnson" was regarded by himself as one of his ablest efforts, and was the product of great labor and research. With Scott and Canning, Mr. Croker united in 1809 in founding the "Quarterly Review," as an organ of the Tory party and an offset to the "Edinburgh." His position in literature and politics gave him prominence in London society for nearly half a century, and most persons of eminence among his contemporaries were known by him. In his official capacity, he was the recipient of confidences from George IV., and was brought into near contact with different members of the royal family in the reigns of several successive sovereigns. His correspondence and diaries reveal his relations with the great personages of his time, with the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, and with Talleyrand, whom he describes as "fattish for a Frenchman," with weak ankles and deformed feet, on which he tottered about in a strange way; with a face void of expression except "of drunken stupor," and a voice "deep and hoarse." He met frequently Madame de Stael, whom he pronounced "ugly, and not of an intellectual ugliness" either. "On the whole," he says of this famous lady, "she was singularly unfeminine, and if in conversation one forgot she was ugly, one forgot also that she was a woman." Such are the spicy comments upon one and another of the host of distinguished people coming within the sweep of Mr. Croker's critical vision, with which his letters and journals are enlivened. It may be readily conjectured that his sarcastic habits, unsparingly indulged in the papers he contributed to the "Quarterly" and likewise in his personal intercourse, made him bitter enemies. Macaulay hated him, as did the younger Disraeli and many more whom he treated to rough satire. The Americans as a nation were not among his friends, for in his writings they were the favorite object of his irritating sneers. Mr. Croker was a violent Tory, and in his Parliamentary career, which lasted twenty-five years, he achieved unenviable distinction by his opposition to the Reform Bill, which he fought steadily from beginning to end. Disraeli took revenge upon him by an exaggerated portrayal of his traits in the character of Rigby in "Coningsby," and Macaulay reviewed his books with malicious delight. Mr. Croker was a lover and patron of the fine arts, and took an active part in the establishment of the Athenæum Club. His death occurred in 1857. The "Correspondence and Diaries" left by him are mines of information regarding the social and political history of his time.

It is a hopeful sign of our times that active business men are contributing the results of their matter-of-fact study and observation toward the solution of



grave questions of economics. A valuable contribution of this kind comes before us in a little book entitled, "The Distribution of Products, or the Mechanism and Metaphysics of Exchange" (Putnam's). The author is Mr. Edward Atkinson, a prominent business man of Boston, and an experienced writer upon economic topics. The volume embraces three essays, originally prepared for special occasions. The first deals with the question: "What makes the rate of wages?" The second asks "What is a bank?" The third treats of "The railway, the farmer, and the public," in their relation to each other and to the common weal. The first essay occupies the greater part of the book. It does not directly and definitely answer the question it propounds, but presents a carefully prepared compilation of facts adapted to magnify its importance, and to point the way towards the true answer. Close study is necessary to digest the data thus given, but the light thrown upon the subject is a full compensation for the labor of a thorough reading. Fresh and bright thoughts flash out continually in the midst of dry statistics, and bare facts are happily turned into convincing arguments. The main drift of the essay is to expose four popular fallacies, and to substitute for them four sound propositions. The fallacies are: 1, "The cost of production of any given article can be ascertained by finding out and comparing the rates of wages paid in its production, in different places here or elsewhere"; 2, "Low rates of wages are necessary to low cost of production, high rates of wages can only be paid consistently with high cost of production"; 3, "Inasmuch as laborers work for wages, wages enter directly into the cost of production, therefore cheap labor can only be assured by the payment of low rates of wages"; 4, "An employer must of necessity be able to hire laborers at low rates of wages in order to make goods at low cost." The four propositions are: 1, "The rate of wages constitutes no standard even of the money cost of production"; 2, "Low rates of wages are not essential to a low cost of production, but on the contrary usually indicate a high cost of production"; 3, "Cheap labor, in a true sense, and low rates of wages, are not synonymous terms, but are usually quite the reverse"; 4, "An employer is not under the necessity of securing labor at low rates of wages in order to make cheap goods; *the cheapest labor is the best paid labor.*" The essay proper is illustrated by seven appendices which give in detail facts and figures with tables and diagrams, the result of great labor, and furnish strange and interesting statistics of high value in their bearing on many problems of political economy. The essay on the Bank is a clear and simple exposition of the functions of that important agent of distribution, which it were well that our would-be statesmen as well as business men should master thoroughly. In the third essay, the Railway system is the central subject, and it is treated in a way to correct erroneous ideas entertained by very many intelligent citizens as well as by plain farmers. It is clearly shown that in spite of frauds and gross abuses connected with the construction and management of railways, the public and farmers especially derive the highest advantages from their service. The view is expressed that we have reached the end of speculative building, and are now entering upon a period of

railway adjustment which will be beneficial to both the companies and the public, in their true relation of mutual dependence and helpfulness.

PUBLIC opinion in this country is gradually reaching the conviction that the training afforded by our schools does not meet the wants of the people. No one disputes that the object of common-school education is to fit the young for the practical duties of life. With all the good work done in our schools they prove of too little aid in providing boys and girls with the capacity for self-support. The system leaves the great majority of boys, whom it has educated out of a liking or a respect for manual labor, to live by their wits; and it converts too many of the girls into Becky Sharps. Our prisons bear this testimony. A large proportion of convicts and felons can read and write; a fair number are, in the ordinary sense, educated men; but the greater part of them have no trade or calling, have never been taught to work, and therefore have preyed upon others. A skilled mechanic is seldom found in a penal institution. These facts are enough to show the importance of a scheme of industrial schools as ample and as full as our present system of common-schools. But there are other reasons, as cogent, why they should prevail in every part of the land. We need, for the sake of our national prosperity, intelligent and dextrous workmen, of American birth and breeding, in all our multitudinous and multiplying industries. The demand is great, and we resort to the Old World for a supply, while our own youth are growing up to find the handicrafts shut against them and their avenues of employment frightfully narrowed and over-crowded. The old custom of thorough apprenticeship has died out. The only means remaining for preparing the bulk of the rising generation for industrial vocations—in other words, for giving them a chance to lead useful, honorable, and happy lives—is to establish schools where, along with the elementary intellectual branches, they shall be taught the use of tools, the rudiments of science and art, and the application of these to the handicrafts. The nations of Europe are awake to the importance of manual and technical training and are successfully pursuing the ways for furnishing it in abundance. What is essential and feasible for them in this line is none the less so for the United States. Educators are agitating the subject, and it will not rest until by some method a broader and more practical course of instruction is introduced into our schools. The question is discussed at length in the late work of Arthur MacArthur, entitled "Education in Its Relation to Manual Industry" (Appletons). A good deal of information is given regarding the industrial schools in operation in the different States of Europe and in our own country, and the arguments in support of such institutions are forcibly presented. The author, it must unfortunately be added, is addicted to prolixity and repeats himself over and over. His book would be better for compression into one-half its present volume. Nevertheless it is serviceable, and helps forward a cause which must sooner or later triumph over all opposition.

THE biography of a great commonwealth has the fascination of a biography of a great man; and inasmuch as it is more complex and comprehensive, it



presents a greater diversity and depth of interest. Each of the separate States of our Union has its individual and peculiar history; each was founded and developed in circumstances to a certain degree exceptional, which have given a distinctive character and direction to its destiny. Hence, the unfolding of its career discloses original and novel traits and incidents, the narration of which is replete with entertainment. More than this, the history of our commonwealths is the history of our country. Despite brief perilous periods of difference and estrangement, they remain a strong, close brotherhood, whose lives are bound together by ties of blood, of sentiment, of situation, and of pursuits. To read the different records of their lives is to read the successive chapters of a heroic story, which is filled with inciting and energizing lessons and examples. The latest portion of this, our national epic, which is being published in what may be called a serial form in Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s "American Commonwealths," gives an account of the commonwealth of Kentucky, by Prof. N. S. Shaler. The author is a native of the State, and a man distinguished in science. For a number of years he was at the head of the geological survey of Kentucky, and is therefore as familiar with its physical features as with its social and political characteristics. His professional knowledge is manifest in various parts of his work, but particularly in those portions devoted to a description of the surface conditions and the natural products of the State. It is also apparent in the systematic manner in which he progresses from the early beginning to the conclusion of his narrative. It is a well-ordered account, compact and coherent throughout, and properly proportioned. The style is not that of a trained and cultivated writer, yet its lack of elegance is a minor affair compared with the substantial merits of the composition. The difficult task of treating the period of the Rebellion is accomplished with good taste and judgment. In this the author's scientific schooling serves him in good stead. Prejudices and prepossessions are set aside, and the testimony of actual facts, so far as this can now be gained, is presented impartially. The opinions of a Southerner and a Unionist, who witnessed the events of the civil war from a near point of view, are of signal value.

THE series of scientific text-books now being published by Appleton & Co. has received two new accessions in the "Geology" of Dr. Joseph Le Conte and the "Zoology" of C. F. and J. B. Holder. These volumes, and especially the former, are a great improvement upon those with which the series was inaugurated, being better written and illustrated, and better adapted for use in the class-room. Good elementary text-books of zoology are greatly wanted, and the present one is better than most, although far from faultless. To write a good text-book requires a special faculty, and one which did not go to the composition of this, of which the strongest feature is afforded by the illustrations, which are very numerous and excellent. Scientific accuracy of expression is often lacking, as when we are told that the young of lampreys "were long considered separate animals"; as what else should they be considered? Positive errors occur, as where we are told that it is generally characteristic of *Hemiptera* to have their

anterior wings thickened at the base. The characterization of groups is generally very defective. Such bits of miscellaneous information as that stockings made from the silk of *Pinna* cost \$2.75 a pair, are badly out of place in such a work. Hard-and-fast numerical statements are made which are apt to be taken too literally; as, for example, that the wings of a fly make 19,800 revolutions in a minute. The classification is modern; the erection of the *Tunicata* into a branch is somewhat questionable, although there is good authority for so doing. To single out the *Elateridae* and the *Dytiscidae* as the only two families of *Coleoptera* deserving of special mention, indicates a serious lack of feeling for proportion. Such criticism as this may be multiplied indefinitely. The "Geology" of Dr. Le Conte is a very much better book, and decidedly the best of the series. It is the work at once of an authority and of a skilled teacher, as every text-book should be, and leaves little to be desired. Besides fulfilling the requirements of such a work, it is an interesting treatise, and one which even the general reader may peruse with satisfaction.

PLATO'S LAWS, while strictly repressing every form of heresy, reserve their severest condemnation for those who, without genuine conviction, work upon the superstitions of the multitude for their own advantage. To this class, a careful perusal of Mr. Sinnett's book on "Esoteric Buddhism" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) convinces us that its author belongs. In this hard, formal, repellant mysticism; in this system of cycles of life-evolution, extending in a magnetic chain through Mercury, Earth, Mars, and four invisible planets known only to esoteric science; in this coarsely materialistic account of the seven principles of men, the highest of which must be evolved in the "sixth round" under penalty of consignment to everlasting annihilation in the "unspiritual" moon,—in all this soulless mechanical scheme there is not the slightest trace of any genuine inspiration, whether in earnest if mistaken study of the old Buddhist and Brahmanic literature or in fruitful living intercourse with unsophisticated natives of India. On the contrary, the book bears every evidence of deliberate and conscious elaboration by a mediocre mind fed on the pseudo-scientific jargon of third-rate popular hand-books, on the "phenomena" of materializations and table-rappings, and on second-hand accounts of old Pythagorean and Neo-Platonic superstitions. That the public should seek for Buddhism in such works as this, when it may read Spence Hardy, Müller's "Sacred Books of the East," and the "Light of Asia," is a pity. But it would require the genius that wrote Lucian's "Liar" to make effective protest, with Societies for the Collection of Ghost Stories in London and Boston, with our leading journals discussing "toxic imponderable matter" and giving telepathic documents, and Lulu Hurst exhibiting in our cities. And yet, in a world so full of wonderful and beautiful things, who can measure the harm that is done by this constant diversion of wonder, aspiration, and sentiment, to these ignoble themes?

MR. CABLE'S historical sketch of "The Creoles of Louisiana" (Scribners) includes much more than the monograph which the title leads one to expect.

It comprehends a quite full outline of the early life of Louisiana; of the settlement of the colony by the French; of its secret cession by Louis XIV. to the King of Spain; of its restoration to France after thirty-eight years of oppression by its Spanish rulers; of its final purchase by the United States in 1803; and of its gradual identification thereafter with the career of the American nation. The story also inevitably embraces a particular account of the life of the city of New Orleans, the special home of the Creoles, from its foundation in 1706 by the brave and sagacious pioneer Bienville, through the long series of diversified and often romantic vicissitudes which bring it down to the present hour. It is a picturesque narrative, having much of the quaintness, the grace, the air of courtesy and high-breeding, characteristic of the race with which it deals. The Creoles possess, in sharp contrast with the Anglo-Saxons, the charming manners and disposition of the Latin stock from whom they have descended. They lack the sturdiness of principle and purpose which mark the people to whom they are politically allied, but from whom until very late years they have held socially aloof. On the other hand, they and their surroundings afford more decorative subjects for delineation with the pen or pencil. In connection with this remark, it is curious to note the resemblance between the manner of Mr. Cable's writing and that employed by the illustrators of his text. There is the same light, facile, pleasing quality in both. And the likeness extends farther. The author makes a slip occasionally in the construction of his sentences, of which the first clause in the second paragraph of his book offers an example. The engravers make even grosser blunders in the execution of what as a whole must be pronounced their highly creditable work. The picture of "The Battle Ground," on page 201, for instance, may be taken for a representation of sky, of water, of ice, of desert sand—of anything, in short, but of solid ground. But Mr. Cable's sketches furnish valuable and delightful chapters in the history of our composite nation.

THE learned and indefatigable historian of ancient nations, Canon Rawlinson, has given to the world a fresh store of information gleaned in his chosen field of research. His new volume, "Egypt and Babylon" (Scribners), embodies the fruits of his study of the Old Testament texts which refer to those countries. Those passages which on the most critical examination are found to allude to the kingdoms of Babylon or Assyria have the first place in the treatise, and afterward come such as are connected with the great people inhabiting the valley of the Nile. It is needless to say that in the elucidation of these texts Mr. Rawlinson exhibits a most erudite acquaintance with the questions under consideration, while with scholarly care he clears away, when possible, the last shade of obscurity hanging over them. It is an interesting and important task he has undertaken, for the light which he throws on dim and mysterious points in the Hebrew Scriptures tends to confirm their claim to veracity and at the same time strengthens the evidences obtained from profane sources which disclose the progressive history of Egypt and Babylon. Mr. Rawlinson treats the historical and the prophetic books of the Old Testament with the veneration

accorded them by one who believes in their sacred and inspired character. His position toward them enlists entire respect, being maintained in a truly candid and catholic spirit. There can be but one opinion among serious readers of biblical and political history regarding the value of his work. It is a substantial aid to the understanding and appreciation of the writings in the Old Testament as records of the life of the ancient nations.

A GREAT amount of useful knowledge has been compressed into Louis Heilprin's "Historical Reference Book" (Appleton). The size of the work—a large duodecimo of 569 pages—shows its limitations in point of space; but by a system of extreme condensation, it is made to enclose "infinite riches in a little room." The first 188 pages are occupied with a chronological table of universal history, which includes the principal occurrences in the progress of civilized nations from the year 4400 B.C. to nearly the close of 1884 A.D. This is supplemented by a chronological dictionary of universal history, covering about a hundred pages. The remaining section of the book, embracing upwards of 270 pages, is devoted to a biographical dictionary, in which the notes are mainly restricted to a single line. The work is in fact a small library in itself, with carefully selected and authenticated contents arranged in the most convenient and acceptable form. It is not necessary to compare it with other productions of its class. It contains less historical information than Hayden's "Dictionary of Dates," for instance; but then it embraces a mass of biographical matter which Hayden's book does not afford. Judging it exclusively upon its individual merits, and with regard to its distinctive plan, it is a valuable work for the student or general reader who is not supplied with a series of the larger and more expensive dictionaries and encyclopedias. Mr. Heilprin has brought to the construction of his book an extended experience in the compilation and verification of historical and biographical data, having served many years in the editorial department of the "American Cyclopædia."

THE fifth volume of the revised edition of Bancroft's "History of the United States" (Appleton) corresponds to the original ninth and tenth volumes, and covers the period from the Declaration of Independence to the Treaty of Peace. The three last chapters, containing the political and diplomatic events of 1782, are of especial interest, by reason of Mr. Bancroft's unrivalled eminence in the diplomatic history of his country, and also of the interesting questions which arise in relation to the good faith of the French government, and the different attitudes assumed by the three American commissioners. Mr. Bancroft considers Jay to have been unwarrantably suspicious of the French ministers, and to have stood out unnecessarily upon an unessential point in Mr. Oswald's instructions. Being ignorant of the condition of parties in England, he did not realize the peril of the delay, which, if protracted until the meeting of parliament, might have shipwrecked the whole negotiation. Adams, too, made some hasty and ill-judged concessions. Nevertheless, these two able lawyers, in the prime of life, were the working members of the commission, and to their industry and ability we owe the principal advantages

of the treaty. The aged and experienced Franklin brought to the service of the commission a soundness of judgment and a native sagacity which enabled him to serve often as a useful balance to his younger colleagues. Mr. Bancroft evidently regards his judgment in the questions that arose as generally correct and always entitled to respect.

MANY students of comparative mythology, who have become impatient at the one-sided interpretations of myths, with their endless repetition of the "dawn" and the "solar hero" which they find in the writings of Max Müller and his school, will take satisfaction in Mr. Andrew Lang's vigorous assault upon the methods of "philological mythology," in his "Custom and Myth" (Harpers). To this "precarious and untrustworthy" method, which rests upon the assumption "that myths must be interpreted chiefly by philological analysis of names," Mr. Lang opposes what he calls "the method of Folk-lore," which seeks explanations in analogy of circumstances rather than in identity of origin as shown by identity of name. It does not seem to us that this distinction expresses the entire difference between the two schools, for, as we all know, the "orthodox" school carries to an absurd extreme the theory of deriving very diverse myths from the same phenomena of nature—in this following the method of folk-lore. Mr. Lang does not overlook the unquestioned truth that the group of Aryan myths have a right to be studied as a group, although it appears to us that he does not give this consideration the attention it deserves. Perhaps, too, he exaggerates the value of his own method. That it is a much needed corrective of the accepted method, we have no question. The book contains fourteen chapters besides the introduction, and discusses objects as varied as Greek myths, Hottentot mythology, Zuni customs, the Finnish Kalevala, and the early history of the family.

JOHN ST. ART MILL's full treatise on "Political Economy" is recognized as a standard authority on the leading principles of that science. Professor Laughlin, in his abridged edition of the work (Appleton), has attempted to reduce the presentation of the subject so as to bring it within one volume, embracing a little more than half the number of pages in the two volumes of Mill. Two-thirds of this space are taken up with quotations from Mill in his own language, slightly modified. The interpolations, notes and additions by Prof. Laughlin, in smaller type, fill the remaining space. The abridgment is effected mostly by the omission of paragraphs and chapters which refer to things peculiar to England. On some topics, views conformed to a different state of things in our country are substituted. The work is thus better adapted to the use of American students; but it is still too large and full for a college text-book, which should give clearly and concisely fundamental principles, leaving full discussions to books of reference. Professor Laughlin gives a concise history of the science treated, a list of books for consultation, and a list of questions touching the application of main principles, which furnish valuable helps to teachers.

MR. JACOB STRAUB's substantial volume entitled "The Consolations of Science" (Colegrove Book

Co., Chicago), is a fresh illustration of the widespread interest in modern scientific and philosophical inquiry. The work is an examination of the question of man's immortality on scientific grounds, and an argument therefrom for the affirmative. Mr. Straub's purpose, as he defines it, is to meet scientific doubters with their own weapons. Like the New England deacon who objected to the banishment of the fiddle from the church choir on the ground that he didn't believe in letting the devil have all the good music, Mr. Straub doesn't mean to allow the skeptics to have all the good arguments. The work is a worthy and timely addition to the religious literature of the day. Various fields of physical and psychological science are explored, and the author's conclusions are clearly and concisely stated. The discussion is conducted in a spirit of fairness and liberality, and must prove interesting and instructive to all in need of such a work. The well-considered and suggestive Introduction, by the Rev. Dr. Thomas, lends additional value to the book.

THE Rev. Theodore T. Munger, of North Adams, Mass., is one of the few preachers whose discourses call for presentation in book form to the general public. A felicitous style, the choice of practical and vital topics, and a certain universality of treatment, have given him a constituency much beyond the limited circle of his New England parish. His latest volume, "Lamps and Paths" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), contains a series of Sunday discourses prepared with express reference to the needs and understandings of the young. They are simple and direct, with the effectiveness of a private talk and persuasive homily, delivered by a loving and earnest teacher, in the course of instruction to his class. The lessons taught in them, conveyed in this familiar and winning manner, are well calculated to arrest the attention and sink into the heart of their youthful listeners.

#### LITERARY NOTES AND NEWS.

EDWIN ARNOLD's new poem from the Sanskrit, soon to be published, is called "The Secret of Death."

A. STIN DOBSON's new volume, "At the Sign of the Lyre," will be published early in the spring, by Henry Holt & Co.

DR. BAIRD's History of the Huguenot Emigration to America will be published early in March, by Dodd, Mead & Co.

MR. BUXTON FORMAN is to edit the poetical works of Lord Byron, for an entirely new edition, to be published by Mr. Murray.

AMONG the artists who have furnished designs for artistic valentines, executed by Prang, are F. S. Church, Harry Beard, and F. W. Freer.

A NEW biography of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, by his grandson, Ernest Hartley Coleridge, is in preparation for the press of Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., London.



THE latest number of "Cassell's Family Magazine" has a bright new cover, designed by Mr. Lathrop, and other propitiatory features that will doubtless materially aid this periodical in its quest for popularity in America.

THREE additional volumes of Hunter's "Encyclopædic Dictionary" are received from the publishers, Cassell & Company. This extensive work was reviewed at length in THE DIAL of October, 1883. The present volumes reach the letter K.

THE volume on California, in the "American Commonwealths" series (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), is to be prepared by Mr. Josiah Royce, author of a work on "The Religious Aspect of Philosophy," just published by the same firm.

E. H. REYNOLDS, St. Augustine, Fla., announces an historical sketch of that famous town, entitled "Old St. Augustine." The illustrations are copies of the very rare drawings of Le Moyne and artotypic views of the ancient landmarks.

PROBABLY the best-paid literary job on record will be that life of the Czar Alexander I. which receives from the Russian Academy the \$1,000,000 prize provided by Arakcheeff, the favorite and minister of that monarch. The prize will be awarded in 1925.

KEATS in the charming "Golden Treasury" series, reprinted from the original editions with notes by Palgrave, is a boon to all lovers of poetry. Nothing could be more compact, yet clear and elegant, than the typography of this volume—the price of which is but \$1.25.

We regret that the excellent "Monthly Reference Lists," prepared by Mr. W. E. Foster, of the Providence Public Library, will no longer be published. Their loss will, to some extent, be made good by the issue of similar lists in the New York "Library Journal."

HARVARD UNIVERSITY and the Maine Historical Society are recipients of copies of the bust of Longfellow, now in Westminster Abbey; the copies are by the original artist, Thomas Brook, A.R.A., and presented by the contributors to the Longfellow Memorial Fund in England.

LABBERTON'S "Historical Atlas," a work that has commended itself to historical students by its thorough scholarship not less than by the ingenuity and convenience of its arrangement, is issued in a new and enlarged edition, at a reduced price, by Townsend Mac Coun, New York.

A STUDY of the "Land Laws of Mining Districts," by Charles Dawson Shinn, which recently appeared in the excellent series of "John Hopkins University Studies," has been expanded into a volume with the title, "Mining Camps, a Study in American Frontier Government," to be issued by Charles Scribner's Sons.

PROF. DAVID S. JORDAN, one of the ablest and most successful of the working naturalists of America, and known to readers of THE DIAL through his contributions of reviews in various departments of science, has accepted the Presidency of the Indiana University, in which institution he has for some years occupied the chair of Biology.

APPLETON & Co.'s latest publications include

"The Money-Makers, a Social Parable," supposed to have reference to the rather over-discussed "Bread-Winners"; "Origin of Cultivated Plants," by Alphonse de Candolle; and "The Crime of Christmas Day," a tale of the Latin Quarter, by the author of "My Ducats and My Daughter."

A FRESH field for American publishers of subscription books appears to be opening in Australia. Of the publications of one firm—N. D. Thompson & Co., St. Louis and New York—five tons were sent last month, in a single shipment, to a house in Sydney; it being the second similar recent consignment.

THE students of Heidelberg University are to listen this winter to a course of lectures on "The Baconian Theory of the Shakespere Authorship," delivered by Professor Schmidt, of the chair of Philosophy in that institution. Professor Schmidt is a supporter of the "The Shakesperian Myth" of Mr. Appleton Morgan, so fondly nursed by the Baconian Society.

A NEW "Journal of Mycology," edited by Prof. J. B. Ellis, of New Jersey, and Prof. W. A. Kellerman, of Kansas State Agricultural College, is to be issued monthly, and will be devoted exclusively to Mycological Botany, special attention being given to the North American fungi. Communications should be addressed to Prof. Kellerman, at Manhattan, Kansas.

HARRIET MARTINEAU is the subject of the latest volume in Roberts Brothers' "Famous Women" series, the biographer being Mrs. Fenwick Miller. A new romance, "Tarantella," by Mathilde Blind; "Daddy Damin's Dove-cot," by Julia Horatio Ewing, illustrated by Caldecott; "A Square," and "Flatland, a Romance of Many Dimensions," are just issued by the same firm.

A NEW biography of Poe, by George E. Woodberry, in the "American Men of Letters" series; "Congressional Government," a study in American Politics, by Woodson Wilson; and "The Religious Aspect of Philosophy," a critique of the bases of conduct and faith, by Josiah Royce, Ph.D., instructor in Philosophy in Harvard College; are among the latest publications of Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

GEORGE ELIOT'S Life, prepared by her husband Mr. Cross, from materials left by her, is issued by Harper & Brothers in three volumes uniform with their "Library Edition" of her works, with portraits and other illustrations. From the same firm comes the announcement of a volume of "The Writings and Speeches of Samuel J. Tilden," edited by John Bigelow, who is understood to be engaged upon a Life of Mr. Tilden.

MRS STOW'S novel now called "Nina Gordon" will henceforth be issued under its original title, "Dred." New illustrated editions of Mrs. Stowe's "My Wife and I," "We and Our Neighbors," and "Poganne People," and also her juvenile books, "A Dog's Mission," "Little Pussy Willow," and "Queer Little People," formerly published by Fords, Howard & Hulbert, are now brought out by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

A VERY agreeable feature of the "Magazine of Art" for February is Miss A. Mary F. Robinson's biographical and critical sketch of Mr. Elihu Vedder, whose illustrations of the Rubáiyát of Omar Khay-

yam have added so much to his reputation. A portrait of Mr. Vedder accompanies the sketch, which shows him to be a handsome man, in the prime of life, with short curling hair and long flowing moustaches. The reproductions from Mr. Vedder's drawings given with this paper are carefully selected and well executed.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS have just published the first two volumes of "Personal Traits of British Authors," a new series of anecdotal biographies, edited by Edward T. Mason. Volume I. is devoted to Byron, Shelley, Moore, Rogers, Keats, Southey, Landor; Volume II. to Wordsworth, Coleridge, Lamb, Hazlitt, Hunt, Procter. The typography of the volumes is unusually attractive. The same firm publish "The Elements of Moral Science, Theoretical and Practical," by President Porter of Yale College.

PULLMAN—the place, not the man—is the subject of an article in the February "Harper's" that well repays perusal. Its author, Prof. R. T. Ely, of Johns Hopkins University, spent some time at Pullman in making his "social study," and evidently found it full of interest. The place has been many times "written up" in its physical and industrial aspects, but this, we believe, is the first time it has been treated by an expert sociologist. While praising many features of the place, Prof. Ely raises some doubts as to its success as a social organization upon its present plan.

A NUMBER of new educational works are added to the list of Ginn, Heath & Co.,—among them a new edition, re-cast and re-written, of "Methods of Teaching History," reviewed in THE DIAL of April last; "Elements of the Calculus," by Prof. J. M. Taylor of Madison University; "Elements of Geometry," by Prof. Eli T. Tappan of Kenyon College; a volume of selections from Rousseau's "Emile," in the series of "Educational Classics"; and, in the series of "Classics for Children," Kingsley's "Greek Heroes" and his fairy tale of "The Water Babies," and Scott's "Lady of the Lake."

AN unpretending and inexpensive "Robert Browning Calendar" for 1885 is issued by the Colgrove Book Company, Chicago. The unusual care bestowed upon its production is explained by the fact that it emanates from the Robert Browning Club of Chicago, a society devoted to the study of Browning's writings. That the work has been performed with thoroughness and enthusiasm is apparent in the selections from the author and the notes accompanying them, which are presented upon each leaf of the calendar, and in the instructive essay printed on the back of the calendar and the extracts and comments illustrating the successive months.

A NEW "Dictionary of National Biography," patterned somewhat upon the great French and German dictionaries of biography, is announced by Macmillan & Co., the editor being Leslie Stephen. Volume I. (Abbadie-Anne) is already issued. The plan is to include lives of the notable men and women of the British Islands, not living. The biographies, which are all by writers of repute, receive additional authenticity from their authors' initials, appended. Among the contributors to the first volume are E. A. Freeman, Prof. Creighton, A. G.

Ward, and the editor. The work will be completed in about fifty volumes, to be issued quarterly.

THERE is for American readers peculiar interest in the volume by Mr. George Dolby, "Charles Dickens as I Knew Him," just published by Lippincott & Co. Mr. Dolby was Dickens's "manager" in his famous reading tour in this country in 1867, and made full notes, which are now for the first time published. The same publishers have issued "Women of the Day," a biographical dictionary of notable contemporaries, by Frances Hays; and "Episodes of My Second Life," a volume of reminiscences, including some of Boston and Cambridge society half a century ago, by Antonio Gallenga (L. Marriotti).

REV. DR. J. W. HANSON, of Chicago, has compiled a Birthday-Book ("Voices of the Faith," Universalist Publishing House, Boston), containing a selection for every day in the year from writers expressing the Universalist faith. The plan is broadly executed, there being no restriction to denominational authorities, but the range includes the general idea of universal salvation. Among others, quotations are given from Rev. F. D. Maurice, Charles Kingsley, Dr. Johnson, A. Lincoln, Bulwer Lytton, Walt Whitman, Hawthorne, Lamb, Burns, Byron, Bryant, Lowell, Holmes, and Arnold. The volume is thus rich in literary matter, and, aside from its religious significance, is very neat and attractive in arrangement and execution.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS announce for early publication: "William E. Burton, Actor, Author, and Manager; A Sketch of his Career, with Recollections of his Performances," by William L. Keese, with a number of character illustrations in heliotype; "The Religion of Philosophy," by Raymond S. Perrin, an analysis of the chief philosophical and religious systems of the world, with a view to establishing a correct synthesis of human knowledge; "The Life of Society," by E. Woodward Brown; "Bible Characters," a series of sermons by the late Alexander D. Mercer, D.D., with memoir of the author and portrait; "How Should I Pronounce? or, The Art of Correct Pronunciation," by W. H. P. Phyle; "Fragments from an Old Inn," sketches and verses by Lilian Rozell Messenger; "The Tariff Legislation of the Past Twenty-five Years," by F. W. Tausig; "The Spanish Treaty Opposed to Tariff Reform," being the Report of a Committee of Inquiry appointed by the N. Y. Free-Trade Club; "Kamehameha the Great, His Birth, Loves and Conquests," a Romance of Hawaii, by C. M. Newell; "Queen Bess," a story for girls, by Marian Shaw.

"SCIENCE" is always providing pleasant surprises for its readers, a fact especially emphasized by the Christmas number, which takes the form of an almanac for the coming year. A colored plate of the sun with its prominences serves as a frontispiece, and is followed by a number of interesting articles provided with headings of fitting verse selected from various poets. Such articles as "The Insects of the Year" and "The Blooming-times for Flowers" are singularly appropriate in this connection. A colored railroad map, for the purpose of explaining standard time, charts of the annular eclipse to occur next March, and a series of very accurate maps of the

heavens, are among the illustrations of this number, which closes with a calendar replete with accurate and valuable astronomical information. The number is, in short, an ideal almanac, and a copy should be found in every home in place of the pamphlet advertisement of some quack nostrum which usually parades under that title. "Science" now enters upon its third year, having fully justified its continued existence. After a few preliminary experiments it assumed and has since steadily kept that safe middle-ground which makes it alike necessary to the specialist and the general reader, neither of whom can afford to be without it.

THE death of William Harvey Wells, which occurred in Chicago January 22, at the age of seventy-two, removed a veteran scholar and author, distinguished especially for his practical work in the cause of education. As superintendent of schools in Chicago, from 1856 to 1864, he introduced and perfected the graded system, and later he held the important office of President of the Board of Education, and was one of the Directors of the Chicago Public Library. He was the author of the familiar "Wells's Grammar," and, his tastes leading him especially to this branch of study, he had made a collection of early grammars and dictionaries that was among the most extensive known. Mr. Wells assisted in the great work of revising Webster's Dictionary for the Unabridged edition, and his services received honorable recognition in the earlier prefaces. He was an authority in such matters, and his contributions to THE DIAL, of which the last appeared in April, 1884, consisted chiefly of reviews of the three or four great dictionaries that have appeared in the past few years. He was an old correspondent of Dr. Murray, the President of the English Philological Society, and other leading philologists.

## TOPICS IN LEADING PERIODICALS.

FEBRUARY, 1885.

Agriculture, Field Experiments in. H. P. Armsby. *Pop. Sci. Mo.*  
America Before Columbus. Alexander Winchell. *Dial*.  
Ancient Art, the Quest for. William Shields Liscomb. *Atlantic*.  
André's Landing at Haverstraw. Prof. Wilson. *Mag. Am. Hist.*  
Arnold, B., March Through Maine. Wm. H. Mills. *Mag. Am. Hist.*  
Art Student in Ecomen, an. Cornelia W. Conant. *Harper's*.  
Birds, Guardian. John B. Coryell. *Harper's*.  
Birds, Why They Sing. Dr. B. Placzek. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Brewster, Sir David. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Calculating-Machines. M. Edouard Lucas. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Canada as a Winter Resort. W. George Beers. *Century*.  
Cholera. Dr. Max Von Pettenkofer. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Clergymen as Politicians. Van Dyke and Beecher. *No. Am. Rev.*  
Cookery, Chemistry of. W. Mattie Williams. *Pop. Sci. Mo.*  
Doniphan, Colonel. T. L. Sneed. *Mag. Am. History*.  
Dutch Portraiture. W. J. Stillman. *Century*.  
Education, New Departures in. G. Stanley Hall. *No. Am. Review*.  
Emerson, Holmes's Life of. George Bancroft. *No. Am. Review*.  
— George P. Upton. *Dial*.  
Endless Punishment, Certainty of. *No. Am. Review*.  
Evolution and Destiny of Man. W. D. Howells. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Federal Union, the. John Fiske. *Harper's*.  
Florentine Mosaic, a. Wm. D. Howells. *Century*.  
Food and Feeding. Grant Allen. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Hatfield House and Marquis of Salisbury. H. W. Lucy. *Harper's*.  
Hawthorne and his Wife. *Atlantic*.  
Holmes, Oliver Wendell. E. C. Stedman. *Century*.  
Jackson, Andrew. Charles Gayarré. *Mag. Am. History*.  
Johnston, A. S., and Shiloh Campaign. W. F. Johnston. *Century*.  
Johnson, the Mohawk Chief. Horatio Hale. *Mag. Am. History*.  
Lee, Vernon. Harriet W. Preston. *Atlantic*.  
Lick Observatory of California, the. Simon Newcomb. *Harper's*.  
Lincoln, Arnold's Life of. W. F. Poole. *Dial*.  
Madame Mohl. Kathleen O'Meara. *Atlantic*.  
Montgomery, Richard. Louise L. Hunt. *Harper's*.  
New Portfolio, the. Oliver Wendell Holmes. *Atlantic*.  
Oriental Religions. Simeon Gilbert. *Dial*.  
Peggs, Samuel. B. H. Stoddard. *Dial*.

Physical Training of Girls. Lucy M. Hall. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Poetry, Recent Books of. William Morton Payne. *Dial*.  
Post-Office in New York, Early. Dr. Vermilye. *Mag. Am. History*.  
Presidential Elections. F. A. P. Barnard. *No. Am. Review*.  
Pullman; A Social Study. Richard T. Ely. *Harper's*.  
Scientific Education. J. W. Powell. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Sea-Water, Properties of. M. Antoine de Saporta. *Pop. Sci. Mo.*  
Shakespeare's Predecessors. Melville B. Anderson. *Dial*.  
Shiloh; Notes of a Confederate Officer. Thos. Jordan. *Century*.  
Shiloh, the Battle of. U. S. Grant. *Century*.  
Sick-Rates and Death-Rates. C. T. Campbell. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Sierras, in the. C. W. Stoddard. *Century*.  
Sight of Railway Employees. William Thomson. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Sulphur and Its Extraction. C. G. W. Lock. *Pop. Sci. Monthly*.  
Sun's Corona, the. Prof. C. A. Young. *No. Am. Review*.  
Virginia Claims in Pennsylvania. T. J. Chapman. *Mag. Am. Hist.*  
Winter Birds About Boston. Bradford Torrey. *Atlantic*.  
Yucatan. Alice D. Le Plongeon. *Harper's*.

## BOOKS OF THE MONTH.

[The following list includes all New Books, American and Foreign, received during the month of January by MESSRS. JANEEN, McCLURG & Co., Chicago.]

### BIOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

*The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.*, and the Journal of his Tour to the Hebrides. By James Boswell. Edited by Henry Morley. Illustrated with portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Five vols., large 8vo. Edition limited to 500 copies, numbered. Vol. I. now ready. London. Per vol., net, \$3.50.  
*The Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D.* Together with the Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides. By James Boswell, Esq. New editions, with notes and appendices by A. Napier, M.A. 5 vols., and Johnsoniana, edited by Robina Napier, 1 vol. In all 6 vols. Bohn's Standard Library. London. Per vol., net, \$1.  
*Personal Traits of British Authors.* Edited by E. T. Mason. With portraits. 2 vols. ready. Per vol., \$1.50.  
*Edgar Allan Poe.* By G. E. Woodberry. "American Men of Letters." Pp. 334. Gilt top. Portrait. \$1.25.  
*Richelieu.* By Gustave Masson. Pp. 350. Net, \$1.05.  
*Egypt and Babylon.* From Sacred and Profane Sources. By George Rawlinson. M.A. Pp. 329. \$1.50.  
*Reminiscences of Army Life under Napoleon Bonaparte.* By A. J. Dolsey De Villargennes. Pp. 96. \$1.

### TRAVEL AND SPORTING.

*The Cruise of the Montauk* to Bermuda, the West Indies, and Florida. By J. McQuade. Illustrated. 8vo., pp. 441. Gilt edges. \$3.  
*Appleton's Illustrated Hand-Book of American Winter Resorts.* For Tourists and Invalids. 1884-5. Pp. 153. Paper. 50 cents.  
*Marquis' Hand-Book of Chicago.* A Complete History, Reference Book, and Guide to the City. Illustrated. Pp. 336. \$1.50.  
*An Amateur Angler's Days in Dove Dale; or, How I Spent my three weeks' Holiday.* London. Net, 55 cents.

### POETRY.

*The Buntings Ball.* A Græco-American Play. Being a Poetical Satire on New York Society. Illustrated. Pp. 154. Gilt edges. \$1.50.  
*Melodies of the Heart, Songs of Freedom, and other Poems.* By W. H. Venable. Pp. 132. \$1.50.

### REFERENCE—EDUCATIONAL.

*Dictionary of National Biography.* Edited by Leslie Stephen. 8vo., gilt top. Vol. I.—Abbadie—Anne. London. \$3.50.  
*Thirty Thousand Thoughts.* Being extracts covering a comprehensive circle of Religious and allied Topics, etc. Edited by Rev. Canon H. D. M. Spence, M.A., Rev. J. S. Exell, M.A., and Rev. C. Neli, M.A. Vol. III. 8vo., pp. 530. \$3.50.  
*The Encyclopædic Dictionary.* A New and Original Work of Reference to all the words in the English Language, with a full account of their Origin, Meaning, Pronunciation, and use. With numerous illustrations. Vol. 3, parts 1 and 2. Vol. 4, part 1. 8vo. Per part, \$3.  
*The Preacher's Promptuary of Anecdote.* Stories, new and old, arranged, indexed, and classified, for the use of Preachers, Teachers and Catechists. By Rev. W. F. Shaw, M.A. Pp. 120. London. \$1.  
*An Almanack for 1885.* By J. Whitaker, F.S.A. Paper. London. 50 cents.  
*Methods of Teaching History.* By A. D. White, W. F. Allan, C. K. Adams, J. W. Burgess, J. R. Seelye and others. Second edition, entirely recast and rewritten. "Pedagogical Library." Edited by G. S. Hall. Pp. 388. \$1.50.



**Education** in its Relation to Manual Industry. By A. MacArthur. Pp. 393. \$1.50.

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